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Massachusetts TRENDS

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University of Massachusetts

Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vol. 1 No. 3 Data for March, 1974

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John Repola, Director

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Although total employment increased slightly in March (up 9,900) it grew less than the labor force (up 12,600). The unemployment rate rose accordingly for the fifth straight month to the highest figure for any month since March 1958. New peaks were hit by the unadjusted unemployment rate of 8.0 percent and the seasonally adjusted rate of 7.8 percent.

Nonagricultural employment advanced only slightly over the month due to labor disputes which idled the largest number of workers since mid-1971. The most widespread dispute took place in the construction industry in eastern Massachusetts. Sizable numbers were also involved in disputes at a publishing and an electrical machinery producing firm.

Manufacturing employment was down in both the durable and nondurable categories. Among the hard goods producers the deepest slash was related to the energy situation and in transportation equipment where a considerable number of auto workers were inactive due to a partial plant shutdown. Moderate advances occurred in ordnance, and in nonelectrical machinery. Nondurable goods work rolls remained fairly stable.

The most vigorous economic activity took place in the nonmanufacturing sector. The service industries made a normal advance of 4,700. Retail and wholesale trade also made its customary seasonal recovery.

Over the year unemployment was up by 44,900. Even though total employment rose by almost as much (43,300) it was not enough to take care of the increase in the labor force which mushroomed by 88,200, almost twice its growth in the preceding year. The transition to the new methodology of estimating unemployment is somewhat exaggerating these increases from 1973 to 1974.

Manufacturing payrolls were up thanks to capital goods orders and strength in the instruments industry. Nondurable employment was uniformly down, except in the miscellaneous group. The nonmanufacturing division realized some tapering off in expansion.

The gap between the state and national unemployment rates widened as the state ratio rose to 7.8 and the national rate dropped to 5.1 percent, seasonally adjusted.

Insured unemployment rose in the survey week by 1.5 percent over the February figure of 137,056. This was nearly 25,000 or 22.4 percent higher than in March 1973.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE
SELECTED PER

LABOR AREA	AREA CLASSIFICATION	THE LABOR FORCE			EMPL	
		March 1974	February 1974 R/	March 1973	March 1974	Febr 19
UNITED STATES						
MASSACHUSETTS		2,597,400	2,584,800	2,509,200	2,389,300	2,3
SMSA's*						
BOSTON	D	1,228,000	1,224,500	1,188,000	1,135,400	1,1
BROCKTON	D	83,800	83,400	79,400	76,700	
FALL RIVER	D	66,200	66,400	66,000	60,500	
LAWRENCE-HAVERHILL	D	101,800	101,600	99,600	93,800	
LOWELL	D	89,500	88,800	86,900	81,500	
NEW BEDFORD	D	66,800	65,900	66,200	60,600	
SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE	D	221,900	220,600	217,200	204,900	20
WORCESTER	D	152,300	151,000	147,800	142,300	14
OTHER LABOR AREAS						
ATHOL		14,200	14,250	14,250	13,350	
BOURNE-WAREHAM-ROCHESTER		9,700	9,520	9,370	8,410	
CLINTON		9,970	9,880	9,980	9,320	
FITCHBURG-LEOMINSTER		47,200	46,800	45,100	43,300	
GARDNER		15,100	15,200	14,750	14,050	
GLOUCESTER		17,650	17,000	16,200	15,550	
GREAT BARRINGTON		9,890	9,760	9,760	9,210	
GREENFIELD		23,750	23,500	22,950	21,650	
MARLBORO		38,300	37,800	34,300	35,600	
MILFORD		23,500	23,200	20,700	21,100	
NANTUCKET		1,690	1,630	1,680	1,600	
NEWBURYPORT		22,800	22,500	21,950	20,100	
NORTH ADAMS		19,250	19,100	18,750	17,750	
PITTSFIELD		36,650	36,500	34,250	33,500	
PLYMOUTH		13,600	13,620	12,560	10,820	
TAUNTON		38,000	37,950	38,000	35,100	
TISBURY		2,600	2,500	2,560	2,420	
WARE		11,040	10,930	11,500	9,490	
WEBSTER-SOUTHBRIDGE		26,300	26,150	25,100	24,200	

* Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA)
Current month always preliminary
R - Revised

Labor Supply Category	Description	Unemployment Rate
Group A	Overall labor shortage	Less than 1.5%
Group B	Low unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
Group C	Moderate unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
Group D	Substantial unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
Group E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
Group F	" "	12.0 or more

Definition of Terms:

Labor Force: An undupli

Unemployment: Includes to find work within th as unemployed are perso a job from which they h

Unemployment Rate: Rat

EMPLOYMENT
BOR AREAS

NT R/	UNEMPLOYMENT			UNADJUSTED RATE			SEASONALLY ADJ. RATE		
March 1973	March 1974	February R/ 1974	March 1973	Mar. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1973	Mar. 1974	Feb. 1974	Mar. 1973
				5.3	5.7	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.0
2,346,000	208,100	205,400	163,200	8.0	7.9	6.5	7.8	7.6	6.3
1,107,600	92,600	91,300	80,400	7.5	7.5	6.8			
74,500	7,100	7,100	4,900	8.5	8.5	6.2			
62,000	5,700	6,000	4,000	8.6	9.0	6.1			
93,500	8,000	9,000	6,100	7.9	8.9	6.1			
81,100	8,000	7,600	5,800	8.9	8.6	6.7			
61,400	6,200	5,800	4,800	9.3	8.8	7.3			
203,400	17,000	17,200	13,800	7.7	7.8	6.4			
139,700	10,000	9,700	8,100	6.6	6.4	5.5			
13,600	850	950	650	6.0	6.7	4.6			
8,570	1,290	1,300	800	13.3	13.7	8.5			
9,570	650	720	410	6.5	7.3	4.1			
42,100	3,900	4,000	3,000	8.3	8.5	6.7			
13,950	1,050	1,150	800	7.0	7.6	5.4			
15,300	2,100	1,900	900	11.9	11.2	5.6			
9,330	680	670	430	6.9	6.9	4.4			
21,500	2,100	2,150	1,450	8.8	9.1	6.4			
32,700	2,700	2,500	1,600	7.0	6.6	4.7			
19,400	2,400	2,500	1,300	10.2	10.8	6.3			
1,620	90	90	60	5.3	5.5	3.6			
20,100	2,700	2,650	1,850	11.8	11.8	8.4			
17,450	1,500	1,600	1,300	7.8	8.4	7.0			
31,750	3,150	3,150	2,500	8.6	8.6	7.3			
11,180	2,780	2,840	1,380	20.4	20.9	11.0			
35,600	2,900	3,000	2,400	7.6	7.6	6.3			
2,430	180	180	130	6.9	7.2	5.1			
10,450	1,550	1,510	1,050	14.0	13.8	9.1			
23,600	2,100	1,900	1,500	8.0	7.3	6.0			

sum of the resident employed and the resident unemployed.

ersons who did not work for pay or profit during the survey week, made specific efforts ous four weeks, and were available for work, except for temporary illness. Also counted were available for work but did not work because they were waiting to be called back to n temporarily laid off or were waiting to report to a new wage or salary job within 30 days.

number of unemployed to labor force.

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment∅	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,462.0	2,299.0	163.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,489.0	2,329.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,565.0	2,394.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
March	2,509.2	2,346.2	163.2	6.5	5.2	6.3	5.0
April	2,533.2	2,376.0	157.2	6.2	4.8	6.4	5.0
May	2,560.8	2,398.8	162.0	6.3	4.3	6.6	4.9
June	2,619.6	2,426.4	193.2	7.4	5.4	6.6	4.8
July	2,593.2	2.397.6	195.6	7.5	5.0	6.6	4.6
August	2,582.4	2,406.0	176.4	6.8	4.7	6.8	4.7
September	2,580.0	2,418.0	162.0	6.3	4.7	6.9	4.8
October	2,593.2	2,434.8	158.4	6.1	4.2	7.0	4.6
November	2,607.6	2,434.8	172.8	6.6	4.5	7.0	4.7
December	2,623.2	2,439.6	183.6	7.0	4.5	7.4	4.8
1974							
January	2,572.8	2,375.2	197.6	7.7	5.6	7.5	5.2
February R	2,584.8	2,379.4	205.4	7.9	5.7	7.6	5.2
March	2,597.4	2,389.3	208.1	8.0	5.3	7.8	5.1

* Not adjusted for seasonality
\# Adjusted for seasonality
∅ Includes labor disputes
R Revised

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
Massachusetts State Employment Service
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Charles F. Hurley Employment Security Building
Government Center, Boston, Massachusetts 02114

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Government Documents Collection

Vol. 1 No. 4 Data for April 1974

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Nonagricultural employment rose moderately by 26,700 between mid-March and mid-April, a smaller than usual increase for that period. Most of the gain was seasonal and took place in nonmanufacturing industries. Factory job rolls dropped slightly due largely to labor-management disputes in the electrical machinery, transportation equipment, and paper manufacturing industries.

The recent influx of defense contracts led to increases in personnel in ordnance producing plants for the third consecutive month. Employment in nonelectrical machinery production continued its nearly uninterrupted climb in an upswing which began in August 1972 and was interrupted only by the vacation shutdowns of last July. Staffs in other hard goods fabricating plants posted little or no gain in the month, while most soft goods industries showed the usual seasonal declines. At the same time, a vigorous seasonal expansion in workrolls occurred in trade, contract construction, and the service industries as warmer weather permitted resumption of outside activities.

Over the year, nonagricultural employment advanced by 34,200 jobs, the best April-to-April gain in the 1970's, but far below gains for the same period in the boom years of the late 1960's. Manufacturing industries accounted for 4,700 additional jobs with an increase of 11,000 jobs in the durable goods sector offsetting losses of 6,300 in the long-term declining nondurable goods sector. Most significant was the growth reported by plants producing machinery, instruments, ordnance, and metals.

Unemployment declined by 14,600 persons to 193,500, the largest March-to-April drop in ten years. Seasonally adjusted, the rate dropped 0.1 of a percentage point from March to April to 7.7 percent, considerably higher than the national unemployment rate of 5.0 percent.

Insured unemployment for the survey week ending April 20th dropped to 124,801 from the total of 136,699 in the like week in March. This figure included 108,854 in the regular UI program and 15,947 under the TREX federal-state extended benefit program. A year earlier, the total number of insured unemployed was 97,594.

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment¢	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
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August	2,582.4	2,406.0	176.4	6.8	4.7	6.8	4.7
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LABOR FORCE, EM
MASSACHUSETTS
SELEC

LABOR AREA	Area Classification	THE LABOR FORCE			
		April 1974	March 1974 R/	April 1973 R/	April 1974
UNITED STATES					
MASSACHUSETTS		2,610,300	2,598,400	2,533,200	2,416,8
SMSA's*					
BOSTON	D	1,238,900	1,228,000	1,197,600	1,146,8
BROCKTON	D	84,300	83,800	80,400	78,0
FALL RIVER	D	66,000	66,200	65,500	61,2
LAWRENCE-HAVERHILL	D	102,400	101,800	100,700	95,3
LOWELL	D	92,700	92,700	90,400	85,8
NEW BEDFORD	D	66,700	66,800	66,600	61,9
SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE	D	223,900	222,000	219,200	208,5
WORCESTER	D	154,700	153,400	148,600	145,8
OTHER LABOR AREAS					
ATHOL		14,250	14,200	14,400	13,3
BOURNE-WAREHAM-ROCHESTER		12,800	12,170	11,800	11,7
CLINTON		10,050	9,970	10,150	9,4
FITCHBURG-LEOMINISTER		47,400	47,200	45,500	43,9
GARDNER		15,200	15,100	14,850	14,3
GLOUCESTER		17,600	17,650	17,100	15,9
GREAT BARRINGTON		10,620	10,450	10,080	10,0
GREENFIELD		24,200	23,750	22,900	22,2
MARLBORO		38,400	38,300	34,700	36,2
MILFORD		23,300	23,500	20,300	21,5
NANTUCKET		1,710	1,670	1,730	1,6
NEWBURYPORT		23,000	22,800	22,800	20,6
NORTH ADAMS		19,350	19,250	19,950	18,0
PITTSFIELD		36,650	36,650	34,550	33,8
PLYMOUTH		14,960	14,960	14,400	12,6
TAUNTON		38,750	38,000	39,100	36,3
TISBURY		3,070	2,860	3,080	2,9
WARE		11,170	11,040	11,510	9,8
WEBSTER-SOUTHBRIDGE		26,150	26,300	25,600	24,3

* Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's)
Current month always preliminary
R - Revised

Labor Supply Category	Description	Unemployment Rate 1/
Group A	Overall labor shortage	Less than 1.5%
Group B	Low unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
Group C	Moderate unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
Group D	Substantial unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
Group E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
Group F	" "	12.0 or more

1/ Ratio of unemployment to area's total work force.

Definition of Terms:

Labor Force: An undu

Unemployment: Includ
find work within the
unemployed are person
job from which they h

Unemployment Rate: R

NEMPLOYMENT
BOR AREAS

ENT		UNEMPLOYMENT			UNADJUSTED RATE			SEASONALLY ADJ. RATE		
R/ 7	April[R/] 1973	April 1974	March[R/] 1974	April[R/] 1973	Apr. 1973	Mar. 1974	Apr. 1973	Apr. 1974	Mar. 1974	Apr. 1973
					5.3	5.7	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.0
,00	2,376,000	193,500	208,100	157,200	7.4	8.0	6.2	7.7	7.8	6.4
,00	1,119,600	92,100	92,600	78,000	7.4	7.5	6.5			
,00	75,600	6,300	7,100	4,800	7.5	8.5	6.0			
,00	62,100	4,800	5,700	3,400	7.3	8.6	5.2			
,00	94,600	7,100	8,000	6,100	6.9	7.9	6.1			
,00	85,100	6,900	7,800	5,300	7.4	8.4	5.9			
,00	62,200	4,800	6,200	4,400	7.2	9.3	6.6			
,00	206,000	15,400	17,000	13,200	6.9	7.7	6.0			
,00	140,100	8,900	9,900	8,500	5.8	6.5	5.7			
50	13,800	950	850	600	6.7	6.0	4.2			
80	11,060	1,040	1,290	740	8.1	10.6	6.3			
20	9,760	630	650	390	6.3	6.5	3.8			
00	42,800	3,500	3,900	2,700	7.4	8.3	6.0			
50	14,200	900	1,050	650	5.9	7.0	4.4			
50	15,700	1,650	2,100	1,400	9.4	11.9	8.2			
70	9,670	590	680	410	5.6	6.5	4.1			
50	21,600	1,950	2,100	1,300	8.1	8.8	5.7			
00	33,200	2,200	2,700	1,500	5.7	7.0	4.3			
00	19,100	1,900	2,400	1,200	8.2	10.2	5.9			
00	1,670	70	70	60	4.1	4.2	3.5			
00	21,000	2,400	2,700	1,800	10.4	11.8	8.0			
50	18,650	1,300	1,500	1,300	6.7	7.8	6.6			
00	32,050	2,850	3,150	2,500	7.8	8.6	7.3			
90	13,120	2,290	2,770	1,280	15.3	18.5	8.9			
00	36,900	2,400	2,900	2,200	6.2	7.6	5.6			
80	2,960	140	180	120	4.6	6.3	3.9			
90	10,530	1,280	1,550	980	11.5	14.0	8.5			
00	24,200	1,800	2,100	1,400	6.9	8.0	5.5			

um of the resident employed and the resident unemployed.

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(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment∅	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
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October	2,593.2	2,434.8	158.4	6.1	4.2	7.0	4.6
November	2,607.6	2,434.8	172.8	6.6	4.5	7.0	4.7
December	2,623.2	2,439.6	183.6	7.0	4.5	7.4	4.8
1974							
January	2,572.8	2,375.2	197.6	7.7	5.6	7.5	5.2
February	2,584.8	2,379.4	205.4	7.9	5.7	7.6	5.2
March-R/	2,598.4	2,390.3	208.1	8.0	5.3	7.8	5.1
April	2,610.3	2,416.8	193.5	7.4	4.8	7.7	5.0

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ∅-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Government Documents
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AUG 1974
University of Massachusetts

Vol. 1 - No. 6

Data for June 1974

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

Nonfarm employment advanced by 17,500 from May to June. Most industries shared in this modest gain. The idling of 4,000 persons by labor management disputes restricted seasonal gains.

Factory payrolls rose by 5,800 over the month. All nondurable goods divisions made seasonal gains in workrolls. Nonfactory employment moved ahead seasonally in June in all but two sectors. These were services, due to normal summer cutbacks in personnel in schools and colleges, and the federal government where employment has been cut by base closings and the austerity program. For the fourth consecutive month employment in contract construction dropped below that posted for the same period in 1973, reflecting a decline in new housing starts in recent months as well as recent labor disputes.

Over the year the rise in nonfarm jobs of 27,100 fell short of the 77,900 increase in the labor force. The oil crisis, reduced auto production, spiraling prices and higher interest rates have combined to dampen the state's economy.

The record seasonal influx of graduates, students, and housewives into the labor force has increased unemployment by 43,200 between May and June. This brought the seasonally adjusted jobless rate for June up to 8.1 percent from 7.9 percent in May.

Insured unemployment for the survey week ending June 22 dropped to 104,960 from the total of 109,223 in the corresponding week in May. The figure included 86,507 in the regular UI program and 18,453 under the TREX federal-state extended benefit program. A year earlier, the total number of insured unemployed was 83,452.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		June 1974	May R/ 1974	June R/ 1973
Massachusetts		2,697,500	2,636,400	2,619,600
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	D	1,274,400	1,245,500	1,236,000
Brockton	D	95,000	93,300	90,300
Fall River	D	67,700	66,500	67,000
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	103,700	103,100	103,400
Lowell	D	93,200	90,700	90,300
New Bedford	D	72,900	71,300	71,600
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	232,900	227,500	228,100
Worcester	D	156,700	154,900	155,300
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		14,750	14,250	14,900
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		14,250	13,380	13,230
Clinton		10,550	10,150	10,310
Fitchburg-Leominster		49,100	47,900	47,300
Gardner		15,800	15,400	15,200
Gloucester		19,600	18,700	18,300
Great Barrington		11,280	11,020	10,330
Greenfield		24,850	24,400	23,450
Marlboro		42,200	39,600	36,100
Milford		24,010	23,350	20,900
Nantucket		3,440	2,530	3,430
Newburyport		24,450	23,150	24,100
North Adams		20,550	19,800	21,100
Pittsfield		38,000	37,250	36,350
Plymouth		16,540	15,350	15,750
Taunton		40,400	39,750	40,100
Tisbury		4,370	3,190	4,460
Ware		12,160	11,950	12,080
Webster-Southbridge		27,150	26,400	26,300

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT

LABOR AREAS

ODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
June 1974	May R/ 1974	June R/ 1973	June 1974	May R/ 1974	June R/ 1973	June 1974	May 1974	June 1973
2,454,400	2,436,500	2,426,400	243,100	199,900	193,200	9.0	7.6	7.4
						8.1	7.9	6.6
1,162,900	1,153,900	1,138,800	111,500	91,600	97,200	8.8	7.4	7.9
86,800	86,400	84,000	8,200	6,900	6,300	8.6	7.4	7.0
62,300	61,700	63,100	5,400	4,800	3,900	8.0	7.2	5.8
95,000	95,700	94,600	8,700	7,400	8,800	8.4	7.2	8.5
83,700	83,200	83,900	9,500	7,500	6,400	10.2	8.3	7.1
67,100	66,100	67,000	5,800	5,200	4,600	8.0	7.3	6.4
213,100	210,600	210,700	19,800	16,900	17,400	8.5	7.4	7.6
144,800	145,200	145,100	11,900	9,700	10,200	7.6	6.3	6.6
13,800	13,500	14,100	950	750	800	6.4	5.3	5.4
13,090	12,320	12,430	1,160	1,060	800	8.1	7.9	6.0
9,710	9,510	9,840	840	640	470	8.0	6.3	4.6
44,400	44,200	44,000	4,700	3,700	3,300	9.6	7.7	7.0
14,650	14,450	14,400	1,150	950	800	7.3	6.2	5.3
17,600	16,800	17,000	2,000	1,900	1,300	10.2	10.2	7.1
10,650	10,450	9,800	630	570	530	5.6	5.2	5.1
22,650	22,450	21,900	2,200	1,950	1,550	8.9	8.0	6.6
39,100	37,200	34,200	3,100	2,400	1,900	7.4	6.1	5.3
21,700	21,500	19,600	2,310	1,850	1,300	9.6	7.9	6.2
3,360	2,460	3,370	80	70	60	2.3	2.8	1.7
21,600	20,800	22,050	2,850	2,350	2,050	11.7	10.2	8.5
19,050	18,450	19,750	1,500	1,350	1,350	7.3	6.8	6.4
34,550	34,300	33,100	3,450	2,950	3,250	9.1	7.9	8.9
14,090	12,980	14,340	2,450	2,370	1,410	14.8	15.4	9.0
37,200	37,100	37,500	3,200	2,650	2,600	7.9	6.7	6.5
4,210	3,050	4,330	160	140	130	3.7	4.4	2.9
10,680	10,580	11,060	1,480	1,370	1,020	12.2	11.5	8.4
24,850	24,550	24,850	2,300	1,850	1,450	8.5	7.0	5.5

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment∅	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,462.0	2,299.0	163.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,489.0	2,329.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,565.0	2,394.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
June	2,619.6	2,426.4	193.2	7.4	5.4	6.6	4.8
July	2,593.2	2,397.6	195.6	7.5	5.0	6.6	4.6
August	2,582.4	2,406.0	176.4	6.8	4.7	6.8	4.7
September	2,580.0	2,418.0	162.0	6.3	4.7	6.9	4.8
October	2,593.2	2,434.8	158.4	6.1	4.2	7.0	4.6
November	2,607.6	2,434.8	172.8	6.6	4.5	7.0	4.7
December	2,623.2	2,439.6	183.6	7.0	4.5	7.4	4.8
1974							
January	2,572.8	2,375.2	197.6	7.7	5.6	7.5	5.2
February	2,584.8	2,379.4	205.4	7.9	5.7	7.6	5.2
March	2,598.4	2,390.3	208.1	8.0	5.3	7.8	5.1
April	2,620.0	2,416.2	203.8	7.8	4.8	8.1	5.0
May R/	2,636.4	2,436.5	199.9	7.6	4.6	7.9	5.2
June	2,697.5	2,454.4	243.1	9.0	5.8	8.1	5.2

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ∅-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vol. 1 - Nos. 7 & 8

Data for July & August 1974

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

JULY & AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

Employment in Massachusetts was at record high levels in the month of June, July, and August, according to John D. Crosier, Director of the Division of Employment Security.

Total employment, at an all-time peak in June, fell off seasonally in July as vacation closings of many factories and establishments temporarily idled thousands of workers who were not entitled to vacation pay. After reopenings, employment picked up again in August reaching the highest level ever recorded for that month.

Over the year from August 1973 to August 1974, nonagricultural employment in Massachusetts increased by 31,500 with 9,300 of this number in the important durable goods manufacturing sector. Machinery, electrical equipment and components, and ordnance were particularly strong.

Durable goods employment reached a four-year peak in June, dipped during July vacation closings, and rebounded in August to a five-year high for that month. Every industry in the durables sector shared in the rebound.

Nonmanufacturing payrolls hit an all-time record of 1,765,600 in June, and then declined seasonally during July and August. Despite these losses due to summer slowdowns, employment in nonmanufacturing was at record level for the month of August, standing 30,300 above the August 1973 level. Only two areas had lost ground during the year -- employment in construction decreased by 4,400 and Federal government employment decreased by 3,600.

Unemployment in Massachusetts remained almost unchanged throughout the summer months. After seasonal adjustment, the unemployment rate was estimated at 8.0 percent of the labor force in June and July and 8.1 percent in August. In the June to August period, unemployment in the United States rose from 5.2 percent to 5.4 percent, but most of the large industrial states like California, Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts have had consistently higher rates.

The stubbornly high unemployment rate was due to more rapid growth in the state labor force than in employment opportunities. An exceptionally large seasonal influx of youth and housewives into the state labor force registered in June was followed by the net withdrawal of nearly as large a number in July and August.

A Federal formula prescribed by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is used by all states in estimating unemployment. Mr. Crosier noted that he and Mary B. Newman, Secretary of Manpower Affairs, have been concerned for some time about the probable overstatement of unemployment in Massachusetts due to several factors, such as the inclusion of large numbers of out-of-state college students in the Federal formula. Analytic studies indicate that if the formula is corrected to reflect the unusual representation of such students in Massachusetts, the unemployment rate will be somewhat lower than previously estimated. These studies are being reviewed with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Unemployment in the large metropolitan areas during the summer months is determined generally by the proportion of manufacturing in the economy of the area. Predominantly manufacturing areas like Fall River, Lawrence-Haverhill, Lowell, New Bedford, and Brockton experienced an abrupt jump in unemployment in July followed by a larger drop in August due to factory recalls and miscellaneous seasonal activities. However, unemployment in the larger trading centers like the Boston, Worcester, and Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSA's) declined from June to July. In all of these areas except Worcester (where the labor force increased slightly more than employment), unemployment declined again in August.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS

SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSIFICATION	THE LABOR FORCE			TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE*		
		July 1974	June 1974 R/	July 1973 R/	July 1974	June 1974 R/	July 1973 R/	July 1974	June 1974 R/	July 1973 R/	July 1974	June 1974	July 1973
Massachusetts		2,664,300	2,699,600	2,593,200	2,425,900	2,456,500	2,397,600	238,400	243,100	195,600			
Unadjusted											8.9	9.0	7.5
Seasonally Adjusted											8.0	8.0	6.6
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas													
Boston	D	1,254,200	1,274,400	1,228,800	1,149,300	1,162,900	1,138,800	104,900	111,500	90,000	8.4	8.8	7.3
Brockton	D	92,500	95,100	88,500	84,200	86,900	81,700	8,300	8,200	6,800	9.0	8.6	7.7
Fall River	D	66,000	67,700	65,500	60,100	62,300	60,500	5,900	5,400	5,000	8.9	8.0	7.6
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	103,300	103,700	100,000	93,300	95,000	90,100	10,000	8,700	9,900	9.7	8.4	9.9
Lowell	D	90,700	93,100	89,200	81,300	83,600	81,800	9,400	9,500	7,400	10.4	10.2	8.3
New Bedford	D	72,100	73,000	71,700	64,700	67,200	65,200	7,400	5,800	6,500	10.3	7.9	9.1
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	229,200	233,200	225,700	210,300	213,400	208,700	18,900	19,800	17,000	8.2	8.5	7.5
Worcester	D	155,400	156,700	152,900	144,100	144,800	143,000	11,300	11,900	9,900	7.3	7.6	6.5
Other Labor Areas													
Athol		14,500	14,750	14,700	13,550	13,800	13,850	950	950	850	6.6	6.4	5.8
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		15,110	14,540	13,650	13,780	13,080	12,820	1,330	1,460	830	8.8	10.0	6.1
Clinton		10,490	10,550	10,050	9,540	9,710	9,510	950	840	540	9.1	8.0	5.4
Fitchburg-Leominster		48,100	49,100	46,700	43,100	44,400	43,000	5,000	4,700	3,700	10.4	9.6	7.9
Gardner		15,550	15,800	15,150	13,800	14,650	14,050	1,750	1,150	1,100	11.3	7.3	7.3
Gloucester		19,890	19,600	18,200	17,500	17,600	16,610	2,390	2,000	1,590	12.0	10.2	8.7
Great Barrington		12,190	11,380	11,710	11,500	10,760	11,240	690	620	470	5.7	5.4	4.0
Greenfield		26,200	25,500	25,150	24,100	23,200	23,550	2,100	2,300	1,600	8.0	9.0	6.4
Marlboro		42,400	42,200	39,100	38,900	39,100	37,100	3,500	3,100	2,000	8.3	7.4	5.1
Milford		23,300	23,600	22,050	20,850	21,300	20,350	2,450	2,300	1,700	10.5	9.7	7.7
Nantucket		4,070	3,430	3,820	3,980	3,340	3,770	90	90	50	2.2	2.6	1.3
Newburyport		25,000	24,450	24,850	21,650	21,600	22,100	3,350	2,850	2,750	13.4	11.7	11.1
North Adams		20,650	20,500	20,800	19,050	18,950	19,400	1,600	1,550	1,400	7.7	7.6	6.7
Pittsfield		38,500	38,350	36,500	35,250	34,750	33,750	3,250	3,600	2,750	8.4	9.4	7.5
Plymouth		16,020	15,910	15,810	14,130	14,090	14,770	1,890	1,820	1,040	11.8	11.4	6.6
Taunton		39,850	40,400	38,600	36,000	37,200	35,400	3,850	3,200	3,200	9.7	7.9	8.3
Tisbury		5,470	4,380	5,090	5,310	4,200	5,000	160	180	90	2.9	4.1	1.8
Ware		12,300	12,160	12,260	10,670	10,680	10,970	1,630	1,480	1,290	13.3	12.2	10.5
Webster-Southbridge		26,800	27,150	26,650	24,350	24,850	24,900	2,450	2,300	1,750	9.1	8.5	6.6

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor disputs, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

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The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS

SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSIFICATION	THE LABOR FORCE			TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
		August 1974	July R 1974	August R 1973	August 1974	July R 1974	August R 1973	August 1974	July R 1974	August R 1973	Aug. 1974	July 1974	Aug. 1973
Massachusetts		2,653,500	2,662,500	2,582,400	2,439,800	2,424,100	2,406,000	213,700	238,400	176,400			
Unadjusted											8.1	9.0	6.8
Seasonally Adjusted											8.1	8.0	6.9
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas													
Boston	D	1,249,500	1,256,500	1,226,400	1,153,900	1,151,600	1,140,000	95,600	104,900	86,400	7.7	8.3	7.0
Brockton	D	93,600	92,400	89,500	86,300	84,100	83,300	7,300	8,300	6,200	7.8	9.0	6.9
Fall River	D	67,100	67,100	68,800	62,700	61,200	65,400	4,400	5,900	3,400	6.6	8.8	4.9
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	104,500	103,400	100,800	96,200	93,400	93,200	8,300	10,000	7,600	7.9	9.7	7.5
Lowell	D	91,200	90,500	88,800	82,800	81,100	82,000	8,400	9,400	6,800	9.2	10.4	7.7
New Bedford	D	71,700	72,400	71,200	66,500	65,000	66,400	5,200	7,400	4,800	7.3	10.2	6.7
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	231,900	229,400	226,200	214,700	210,500	210,500	17,200	18,900	15,700	7.4	8.2	6.9
Worcester	D	157,100	155,400	153,500	145,500	144,100	144,400	11,600	11,300	9,100	7.4	7.3	5.9
Other Labor Areas													
Athol		14,400	14,500	14,650	13,550	13,550	13,850	850	950	800	5.9	6.6	5.5
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		14,940	15,110	13,700	13,790	13,780	12,900	1,150	1,330	800	7.7	8.8	5.8
Clinton		10,200	10,490	10,070	9,480	9,540	9,590	720	950	480	7.1	9.1	4.8
Fitchburg-Leominster		48,100	48,100	46,600	43,800	43,100	43,500	4,300	5,000	3,100	8.9	10.4	6.7
Gardner		15,500	15,500	15,050	14,300	13,800	14,300	1,200	1,750	750	7.7	11.3	5.0
Gloucester		19,390	19,890	17,990	17,500	17,500	16,810	1,890	2,390	1,180	9.8	12.0	6.6
Great Barrington		11,960	12,080	11,660	11,350	11,500	11,210	610	580	450	5.1	4.8	3.9
Greenfield		26,100	26,200	24,750	24,250	24,100	23,300	1,850	2,100	1,450	7.1	8.0	5.9
Marlboro		44,355	42,400	39,200	41,400	38,900	37,400	2,955	3,500	1,800	6.7	8.3	4.6
Milford		23,600	23,500	21,750	21,000	20,850	20,500	2,600	2,650	1,250	11.0	11.3	5.7
Nantucket		4,120	4,070	3,870	4,050	3,980	3,830	70	90	40	1.7	2.2	1.0
Newburyport		24,050	25,000	23,700	21,400	21,650	21,700	2,650	3,350	2,000	11.0	13.4	8.4
North Adams		20,800	20,650	20,000	19,350	19,050	18,700	1,450	1,600	1,300	7.0	7.7	6.5
Pittsfield		38,050	38,500	36,550	35,050	35,250	33,900	3,000	3,250	2,650	7.9	8.4	7.3
Plymouth		15,480	15,390	15,680	13,590	13,490	14,610	1,890	1,900	1,070	12.2	12.3	6.8
Taunton		39,200	39,850	38,000	36,350	36,000	35,800	2,850	3,850	2,200	7.3	9.7	5.8
Tisbury		5,510	5,340	5,220	5,340	5,160	5,130	170	180	90	3.1	3.4	1.7
Ware		12,170	12,280	11,560	10,790	10,650	10,530	1,380	1,630	1,030	11.3	13.3	8.9
Webster-Southbridge		26,750	26,800	26,250	24,600	24,350	24,850	2,150	2,450	1,400	8.0	9.1	5.3

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentø	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,462.0	2,299.0	163.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,489.0	2,329.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,565.0	2,394.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
August	2,582.4	2,406.0	176.4	6.8	4.7	6.9	4.7
September	2,580.0	2,418.0	162.0	6.3	4.7	7.1	4.8
October	2,593.2	2,434.8	158.4	6.1	4.2	7.2	4.6
November	2,607.6	2,434.8	172.8	6.6	4.5	7.3	4.7
December	2,623.2	2,439.6	183.6	7.0	4.5	7.4	4.8
1974							
January	2,572.8	2,375.2	197.6	7.7	5.6	7.4	5.2
February	2,584.8	2,379.4	205.4	7.9	5.7	7.4	5.2
March	2,598.4	2,390.3	208.1	8.0	5.3	7.6	5.1
April	2,620.0	2,416.2	203.8	7.8	4.8	7.8	5.0
May	2,636.4	2,436.5	199.9	7.6	4.6	7.6	5.2
June	2,699.6	2,456.5	243.1	9.0	5.8	8.0	5.2
July	2,662.5	2,424.1	238.4	9.0	5.6	8.0	5.3
August	2,653.5	2,439.8	213.7	8.1	5.3	8.1	5.4

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vol. 1 - No. 9 Data for September 1974

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Employment in Massachusetts reached a record level for the month of September, climbing to 2,450,000, an increase of 32,000 over the corresponding level for September, 1973. Nonmanufacturing employment was at an all-time peak while manufacturing employment remained relatively unchanged.

Unemployment in Massachusetts declined to 194,400 during September, the lowest level of unemployment for any month this year. The actual number of unemployed in Massachusetts decreased by 9 percent from August to September while during the same month at the national level unemployment was increasing by 9 percent. With a labor force of 2,644,700 the level of unemployment in Massachusetts represented 7.4 percent of the labor force. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September is estimated to be 8.3 percent, up slightly from 8.1 percent in August. The national unemployment rate increased from 5.4 percent to 5.8 percent during the corresponding period.

The state's manufacturing industries reported few significant changes in employment. The largest net change in any manufacturing industry from August to September was the addition of 1,000 in transportation equipment following settlement of a labor dispute.

The most significant change in the employment picture was registered in the nonmanufacturing sector which showed a gain of approximately 20,000 jobs from the previous month. During the month of September the state experienced gains over the August level in the areas of wholesale and retail trade (6,900), services, miscellaneous and mining (9,900), government (4,500) and transportation and public utilities (1,700). These changes more than offset the employment losses in the area of contract construction and finance, insurance and real estate which continue to be in trouble largely due to the high interest rates we are now experiencing in the economy.

Insured unemployment for the survey week ending September 21 dropped to 101,237 from the total of 107,948 in the corresponding week in August. The figure included 81,540 in the regular UI program and 19,697 under the TREX federal-state extended benefit program. A year earlier, the total number of insured unemployed was 88,123.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		Sept. 1974	Aug.R 1974	Sept.R 1973
Massachusetts		2,644,700	2,653,500	2,580,000
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	D	1,249,200	1,249,900	1,230,000
Brockton	D	93,100	93,900	89,800
Fall River	D	67,200	67,200	69,400
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	104,400	104,700	100,800
Lowell	D	99,900	98,500	96,100
New Bedford	D	72,200	71,900	70,500
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	230,700	231,500	223,700
Worcester	D	154,900	156,100	152,600
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		14,100	14,400	14,400
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		15,240	15,420	14,130
Clinton		9,970	10,200	10,000
Fitchburg-Leominster		47,600	48,100	46,900
Gardner		15,350	15,500	15,150
Gloucester		19,280	19,390	17,430
Great Barrington		12,120	11,960	11,980
Greenfield		25,750	26,100	24,300
Marlboro		42,900	43,300	39,200
Milford		23,500	23,500	21,800
Nantucket		3,580	4,150	3,210
Newburyport		23,700	24,050	23,600
North Adams		20,850	20,800	19,550
Pittsfield		37,550	38,050	35,900
Plymouth		15,070	15,480	14,410
Taunton		39,900	39,200	39,250
Tisbury		4,880	5,510	4,610
Ware		12,040	12,170	11,530
Webster-Southbridge		26,150	26,750	25,950

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job withing 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT

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TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
Sept. 1974	Aug.[R] 1974	Sept.[R] 1973	Sept. 1974	Aug.[R] 1974	Sept.[R] 1973	Sept. 1974	Aug. 1974	Sept. 1973
2,450,300	2,439,800	2,418,000	194,400	213,700	162,000			
						7.4	8.1	6.3
						8.3	8.1	7.1
1,162,000	1,154,300	1,149,600	87,200	95,600	80,400	7.0	7.6	6.5
86,600	86,600	84,100	6,500	7,300	5,700	7.0	7.8	6.3
63,000	62,600	66,300	4,200	4,600	3,100	6.3	6.8	4.5
96,300	96,400	93,000	8,100	8,300	7,600	7.8	7.9	7.5
91,300	89,800	90,100	8,600	8,700	6,000	8.6	8.8	6.2
66,400	66,500	66,400	5,800	5,400	4,100	8.0	7.5	5.8
215,100	214,300	209,900	15,600	17,200	13,800	6.8	7.4	6.2
145,300	145,100	144,600	9,600	11,000	8,000	6.2	7.0	5.2
13,400	13,550	13,700	700	850	700	5.0	5.9	4.9
13,740	13,790	12,860	1,500	1,630	1,270	9.8	10.6	9.0
9,300	9,480	9,600	670	720	400	6.7	7.1	4.0
43,400	43,800	43,900	4,200	4,300	3,000	8.8	8.9	6.4
14,200	14,300	14,350	1,150	1,200	800	7.5	7.7	5.3
17,400	17,500	16,270	1,880	1,890	1,160	9.8	9.7	6.7
11,600	11,350	11,590	520	610	390	4.3	5.1	3.3
24,150	24,250	23,000	1,600	1,850	1,300	6.2	7.1	5.3
40,500	40,400	37,600	2,400	2,900	1,600	5.6	6.7	4.1
21,400	21,000	20,600	2,100	2,500	1,200	8.9	10.6	5.5
3,480	4,050	3,130	100	100	80	2.8	2.4	2.5
21,300	21,400	21,650	2,400	2,650	1,950	10.1	11.0	8.3
19,500	19,350	18,400	1,350	1,450	1,150	6.5	7.0	5.9
34,800	35,050	33,450	2,750	3,000	2,450	7.3	7.9	6.8
13,460	13,590	13,130	1,610	1,890	1,280	10.7	12.2	8.9
37,250	36,350	37,000	2,650	2,850	2,250	6.6	7.3	5.7
4,720	5,340	4,510	160	170	100	3.3	3.1	2.2
10,810	10,790	10,390	1,230	1,380	1,140	10.2	11.3	9.9
24,250	24,600	24,650	1,900	2,150	1,300	7.3	8.0	5.0

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
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Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

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(in thousands)

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1974							
January	2,572.8	2,375.2	197.6	7.7	5.6	7.4	5.2
February	2,584.8	2,379.4	205.4	7.9	5.7	7.4	5.2
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May	2,636.4	2,436.5	199.9	7.6	4.6	7.6	5.2
June	2,699.6	2,456.5	243.1	9.0	5.8	8.0	5.2
July	2,662.5	2,424.1	238.4	9.0	5.6	8.0	5.3
August	2,653.5	2,439.8	213.7	8.1	5.3	8.1	5.4
September	2,644.7	2,450.3	194.4	7.4	5.7	8.3	5.8

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

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Vol. 1 - No. 10

Data for October 1974

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

Employment in Massachusetts reached an all-time record high in October as unemployment decreased to the lowest level for the year.

Some 2,457,000 persons were employed in the Commonwealth in October while 189,000 individuals were estimated to be unemployed. It should be noted that the number unemployed has declined in four successive months from the peak of 243,000 persons reached in June.

After adjustments for seasonal variations, the Bay State's unemployment rate remained essentially unchanged at 8.4 percent of the labor force in October compared to 8.3 percent in September. Since June, the Massachusetts adjusted rate has increased only 0.4 of a percentage point while the comparable unemployment rate for the United States has risen 0.8 of a percentage point - from 5.2 percent to 6.0 percent. In both the state and the nation, employment has increased in the four months, but not sufficiently to match the continuing growth in the number of persons seeking jobs.

Employment changes from September to October reflect a modest rise in nonmanufacturing jobs more than offsetting the small dip in manufacturing. Gains were noted in educational services in state and local government and in nonprofit institutions and universities, while seasonal decreases occurred in hotels, motels, and amusement and recreation services. Labor disputes contributed to the decline in manufacturing.

Over the past twelve months a small increase in durable goods manufacturing carried employment in this sector to the highest level for any October since 1969. Offsetting this gain, however, was the long continued decline in nondurables such as textiles, apparel, and leather goods. Nonmanufacturing employment topped all previous totals, making its best October advance since 1970, with a gain of 37,500 jobs over the year.

Unemployment in five of the state's eight large metropolitan areas followed the state pattern and declined in October although in Worcester the rate remained unchanged at 6.2 percent. In both Fall River and in New Bedford unemployment increased due to losses in textiles and apparel. The rate in New Bedford increased from 8.1 to 8.4 percent and in Fall River, where a labor dispute was in progress, from 6.3 to 6.9 percent.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		Oct. 1974	Sept.R 1974	Oct.R 1973
Massachusetts		2,646,500	2,647,100	2,593,200
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	D	1,253,700	1,250,300	1,238,400
Brockton	D	94,400	93,200	91,400
Fall River	D	66,800	67,200	68,800
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	102,800	103,400	99,400
Lowell	D	99,700	99,800	97,700
New Bedford	D	71,200	71,700	70,300
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	226,600	230,200	224,600
Worcester	D	154,100	154,900	151,800
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		14,250	14,100	14,550
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		14,820	15,240	13,670
Clinton		9,920	9,970	10,040
Fitchburg-Leominster		47,000	47,600	46,700
Gardner		15,400	15,350	15,300
Gloucester		18,750	19,280	17,950
Great Barrington		10,620	12,120	10,570
Greenfield		26,050	25,750	24,850
Marlboro		42,900	42,900	40,000
Milford		22,600	23,000	21,750
Nantucket		2,710	3,580	2,320
Newburyport		23,050	23,700	22,700
North Adams		20,850	20,850	19,950
Pittsfield		37,500	37,550	35,550
Plymouth		15,020	15,070	14,800
Taunton		39,750	39,900	39,900
Tisbury		3,260	4,880	3,560
Ware		12,120	12,040	11,410
Webster-Southbridge		26,150	26,150	25,950

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

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Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job withing 30 days.

T, UNEMPLOYMENT

LABOR AREAS

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TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
Oct. 1974	Sept.[R] 1974	Oct.[R] 1973	Oct. 1974	Sept.[R] 1974	Oct.[R] 1973	Oct. 1974	Sept. 1974	Oct. 1973
2,457,300	2,452,700	2,434,800	189,200	194,400	158,400			
						7.1	7.3	6.1
						8.4	8.3	7.2
1,169,800	1,163,100	1,162,800	83,900	87,200	75,600	6.7	7.0	6.1
87,900	86,700	86,000	6,500	6,500	5,400	6.9	7.0	5.9
62,200	63,000	65,300	4,600	4,200	3,500	6.9	6.3	5.1
95,300	95,300	92,400	7,500	8,100	7,000	7.3	7.8	7.0
91,400	91,200	91,200	8,300	8,600	6,500	8.3	8.6	6.7
65,200	65,900	66,400	6,000	5,800	3,900	8.4	8.1	5.5
211,400	214,600	211,100	15,200	15,600	13,500	6.7	6.8	6.0
144,600	145,300	144,300	9,500	9,600	7,500	6.2	6.2	4.9
13,550	13,400	13,900	700	700	650	4.9	5.0	4.5
13,150	13,740	12,270	1,670	1,500	1,400	11.3	9.8	10.2
9,220	9,300	9,630	700	670	410	7.1	6.7	4.1
42,700	43,400	44,000	4,300	4,200	2,700	9.1	8.8	5.8
14,350	14,200	14,600	1,050	1,150	700	6.8	7.5	4.6
17,100	17,400	16,800	1,650	1,880	1,150	8.8	9.8	6.4
10,060	11,600	10,200	560	520	370	5.3	4.3	3.5
24,550	24,150	23,600	1,500	1,600	1,250	5.8	6.2	5.0
40,500	40,500	38,500	2,400	2,400	1,500	5.6	5.6	3.8
20,700	21,000	20,600	1,900	2,000	1,150	8.4	8.7	5.3
2,610	3,480	2,220	100	100	100	3.7	2.8	4.3
20,750	21,300	20,950	2,300	2,400	1,750	10.0	10.1	7.7
19,500	19,500	18,800	1,350	1,350	1,150	6.5	6.5	5.8
34,850	34,800	33,300	2,650	2,750	2,250	7.1	7.3	6.3
12,970	13,460	13,930	2,050	1,610	870	13.6	10.7	5.9
37,450	37,250	37,800	2,300	2,650	2,100	5.8	6.6	5.3
3,110	4,720	3,440	150	160	120	4.6	3.3	3.4
10,900	10,810	10,130	1,220	1,230	1,280	10.1	10.2	11.2
24,150	24,250	24,700	2,000	1,900	1,250	7.6	7.3	4.8

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

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Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
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(in thousands)

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1973	2,565.0	2,394.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
October	2,593.2	2,434.8	158.4	6.1	4.2	7.2	4.6
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February	2,584.8	2,379.4	205.4	7.9	5.7	7.4	5.2
March	2,598.4	2,390.3	208.1	8.0	5.3	7.6	5.1
April	2,620.0	2,416.2	203.8	7.8	4.8	7.8	5.0
May	2,636.4	2,436.5	199.9	7.6	4.6	7.6	5.2
June	2,699.6	2,456.5	243.1	9.0	5.8	8.0	5.2
July	2,662.5	2,424.1	238.4	9.0	5.6	8.0	5.3
August	2,653.5	2,439.8	213.7	8.1	5.3	8.1	5.4
September	2,647.1	2,452.7	194.4	7.3	5.7	8.3	5.8
October	2,646.5	2,457.3	189.2	7.1	5.5	8.4	6.0

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vol. 1 - No. 11 Data for November 1974

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

The Massachusetts unemployment rate after adjusting for seasonal factors climbed from 8.4 percent in October to 9.1 percent in November, according to John D. Crosier, Director of the Division of Employment Security. The Commonwealth felt the effects of the economic slowdown as the national rate of unemployment rose from 6.0 percent in October to 6.5 percent in November.

Director Crosier noted that the full impact of the national downturn has not yet been felt in the Bay State. While total nonagricultural employment in Massachusetts held steady from October to November, a slight decrease was recorded nationally. Employment in construction and manufacturing, the vital goods-producing sector of the economy, dropped only one percent in November in Massachusetts, compared to two percent for the entire nation.

Employment in the service-producing sector rose slightly in both Massachusetts and the nation. In Massachusetts the gain was due to continuing expansion of health and educational services together with seasonal gains in trade and state and local government which offset seasonal declines in motels and amusement and recreation services.

Comparison of employment trends over the past 12 months show that economic conditions in Massachusetts have been similar to those experienced nationally, although the slowdown has been more gradual in some respects. Total nonagricultural employment in Massachusetts rose 0.8 percent in the past 12 months while the national gain was only 0.6 percent. Employment levels in the important durable goods manufacturing industries dropped less than one percent in Massachusetts compared to 3.8 percent nationwide.

The service industries, which have provided many new job opportunities in the post-war period, continued their vigorous growth in the past twelve months with a 4 percent gain in employment in both Massachusetts and the nation.

All eight major metropolitan areas experienced seasonal rises in unemployment as intermittent workers were used to staff for the pre-Christmas push, while regular workers displaced from factories and construction and other outdoor activities swelled the number unemployed. The Lowell metropolitan area reported the sharpest rise in unemployment, partly because of layoffs of Lowell residents who work outside the area. Unemployment in the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke metropolitan area also increased sharply due to reported cutbacks of some 2,100 in manufacturing employment.

Insured unemployment for the survey week ending November 23rd totalled 128,466, a substatial increase over the October total of 101,248. This total includes 100,813 receiving regular UI benefits and 17,653 under the federal-state extended benefits program. A year earlier, the total number of insured unemployed was 85,845.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		Nov. 1974	Oct. R/ 1974	Nov. R/ 1973
Massachusetts		2,674,200	2,647,100	2,607,600
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	D	1,266,500	1,253,600	1,252,800
Brockton	D	94,700	94,100	92,100
Fall River	D	67,600	66,700	69,700
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	103,300	102,800	99,600
Lowell	D	102,100	99,900	98,000
New Bedford	D	71,600	71,100	70,600
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	226,700	227,900	225,100
Worcester	D	155,500	154,600	154,000
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		14,150	14,250	14,500
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		12,780	12,950	13,400
Clinton		9,690	9,920	10,010
Fitchburg-Leominster		46,900	47,000	46,900
Gardner		15,450	15,400	15,350
Gloucester		18,640	18,750	17,890
Great Barrington		10,270	10,620	10,280
Greenfield		26,050	26,050	25,100
Marlboro		42,500	42,900	40,300
Milford		22,600	22,500	21,900
Nantucket		2,420	2,710	1,980
Newburyport		23,200	23,050	22,750
North Adams		21,100	20,850	19,700
Pittsfield		37,600	37,500	36,000
Plymouth		15,450	15,020	14,630
Taunton		40,050	39,750	39,800
Tisbury		3,290	3,280	3,470
Ware		11,870	11,900	11,220
Webster-Southbridge		26,150	26,150	26,000

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job withing 30 days.

NEMPLOYMENT

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TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
Nov. 1974	Oct. R/ 1974	Nov. R/ 1973	Nov. 1974	Oct. R/ 1974	Nov. R/ 1973	Nov. 1974	Oct. 1974	Nov. 1973
2,452,200	2,457,900	2,434,800	222,000	189,200	172,800			
						8.3	7.1	6.6
						9.1	8.4	7.3
1,171,800	1,169,700	1,172,400	94,700	83,900	80,400	7.5	6.7	6.4
87,100	87,600	86,400	7,600	6,500	5,700	8.0	6.9	6.2
62,100	62,100	65,400	5,500	4,600	4,300	8.1	6.9	6.2
94,800	95,300	91,400	8,500	7,500	8,200	8.2	7.3	8.2
90,800	91,600	90,900	11,300	8,300	7,100	11.1	8.3	7.2
63,900	65,100	65,900	7,700	6,000	4,600	10.8	8.4	6.5
208,600	212,700	210,400	18,100	15,200	14,700	8.0	6.7	6.5
144,800	145,100	145,600	10,700	9,500	8,400	6.9	6.1	5.5
13,350	13,550	13,800	800	700	700	5.7	4.9	4.8
11,160	11,600	12,000	1,620	1,350	1,400	12.7	10.4	10.4
8,790	9,220	9,560	900	700	450	9.3	7.1	4.5
41,600	42,700	43,900	5,300	4,300	3,000	11.3	9.1	6.4
14,200	14,350	14,550	1,250	1,050	800	8.1	6.8	5.2
16,700	17,100	16,360	1,940	1,650	1,530	10.4	8.8	8.6
9,590	10,060	9,810	680	560	470	6.6	5.3	4.6
24,250	24,550	23,550	1,800	1,500	1,550	6.9	5.8	6.2
39,500	40,500	38,700	3,000	2,400	1,600	7.1	5.6	4.0
20,400	20,600	20,600	2,200	1,900	1,300	9.7	8.4	5.9
2,240	2,610	1,850	180	100	130	7.4	3.7	6.6
20,500	20,750	20,900	2,700	2,300	1,850	11.6	10.0	8.1
19,350	19,500	18,400	1,750	1,350	1,300	8.3	6.5	6.6
34,500	34,850	33,350	3,100	2,650	2,650	8.2	7.1	7.4
12,930	12,960	13,770	2,520	2,060	860	16.3	13.7	5.9
37,150	37,450	37,400	2,900	2,300	2,400	7.2	5.8	6.0
3,010	3,110	3,240	280	170	230	8.5	5.2	6.6
10,390	10,680	9,990	1,480	1,220	1,230	12.5	10.3	11.0
23,850	24,150	24,650	2,300	2,000	1,350	8.8	7.6	5.2

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentø	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,462.0	2,299.0	163.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,489.0	2,329.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,565.0	2,394.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
November	2,607.6	2,434.8	172.8	6.6	4.5	7.3	4.7
December	2,623.2	2,439.6	183.6	7.0	4.5	7.4	4.8
1974							
January	2,572.8	2,375.2	197.6	7.7	5.6	7.4	5.2
February	2,584.8	2,379.4	205.4	7.9	5.7	7.4	5.2
March	2,598.4	2,390.3	208.1	8.0	5.3	7.6	5.1
April	2,620.0	2,416.2	203.8	7.8	4.8	7.8	5.0
May	2,636.4	2,436.5	199.9	7.6	4.6	7.6	5.2
June	2,699.6	2,456.5	243.1	9.0	5.8	8.0	5.2
July	2,662.5	2,424.1	238.4	9.0	5.6	8.0	5.3
August	2,653.5	2,439.8	213.7	8.1	5.3	8.1	5.4
September	2,647.1	2,452.7	194.4	7.3	5.7	8.3	5.8
October	2,647.1	2,457.9	189.2	7.1	5.5	8.4	6.0
November	2,674.2	2,4552.2	222.0	8.3	6.2	9.1	6.5

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Vol. 1 - No. 12 Data for December 1974

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

The Massachusetts economy continued to show the effects of the national economic recession during December. The Bay State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose from 9.1 percent in November to 9.9 percent in December which was generally comparable to the national increase from 6.5 to 7.1 percent.

Widely scattered declines in employment resulted as normal seasonal downturns were itensified by reductions in consumer purchases. Altogether, Massachusetts employment dropped by 15,100 in the month in contrast to the moderate rise in employment usually experienced in December. Christmas hires were low in the slumping retail industry; construction employment was the lowest for any December since 1970; and every manufacturing industry, except ordnance and transportation equipment, reported reductions from November employment levels. Most of the losses in the various manufacturing divisions were small, however.

The preliminary December estimate of unemployment at 251,400 persons was the highest for any month since the current estimating formula was developed in the late 1950's. Unemployment compensation claims in December were at an all-time record high with 143,773 persons receiving regular benefits plus 20,626 persons receiving extended benefits in the survey week (December 15-21). In the 1973 comparable week, 98,107 regular claims and 14,700 extended claims were filed.

Developments in the Massachusetts economy in the past 12 months were mixed. While total employment in December 1974 was only 3,600 below the year earlier figure, manufacturing workforces were down by 25,000 persons, principally in food processing, textiles and apparel, paper, plastics, and rubber products. Employment in all other industries was up 21,500 despite losses of 8,300 in construction, 2,500 in Federal government employment, and 2,400 (partly strike-related) in transportation, communication, and utilities industries.

During the past year the number of persons entering the labor force in Massachusetts grew by 2.4%, substantially more than the national growth of 1.8%. The virtual standstill over the year in employment levels, combined with the increased civilian labor force, resulted in a rise in unemployment from an estimated 183,600 persons or 7.4 percent in December 1973 to the present estimate of 251,400 persons or 9.9 percent.

The December unemployment rate is preliminary, as are all previously issued 1974 rates. It was derived from a Federally-mandated formula used to estimate unemployment throughout the country. Early in 1975 the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics will replace the preliminary 1974 estimates with final estimates. The BLS rates use Massachusetts data from the national sample of approximately 50,000 households from which the monthly national unemployment rates are computed.

All of the state's major metropolitan areas reported higher unemployment levels in line with the state and national trend. New Bedford replaced Lowell as the metropolitan area with the highest unemployment rate (12.3 percent). Most areas reported minor cutbacks spread through many industries. Seasonal layoffs which started earlier and lasted longer than usual added significantly to total unemployment.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		Dec. 1974	Nov. R/ 1974	Dec. R/ 1973
Massachusetts		2,687,400	2,673,000	2,623,200
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	D	1,269,900	1,266,100	1,248,000
Brockton	D	95,200	94,700	92,300
Fall River	D	67,100	67,600	69,900
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	115,800	115,400	113,900
Lowell	D	102,100	102,200	97,700
New Bedford	D	71,400	71,500	70,800
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	226,100	226,800	225,200
Worcester	D	156,600	155,500	153,500
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		14,050	14,150	14,450
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		12,150	12,780	12,640
Clinton		9,600	9,690	10,130
Fitchburg-Leominster		47,300	46,900	47,000
Gardner		15,900	15,450	15,650
Gloucester		18,110	18,640	17,960
Great Barrington		10,460	10,270	10,410
Greenfield		26,000	26,050	25,250
Marlboro		42,600	42,500	40,900
Milford		22,450	22,600	22,300
Nantucket		2,450	2,420	2,100
Newburyport		22,950	23,200	23,050
North Adams		20,500	21,100	20,100
Pittsfield		37,500	37,600	36,300
Plymouth		15,050	15,450	15,030
Taunton		39,650	40,050	39,200
Tisbury		3,360	3,280	3,480
Ware		11,750	11,870	11,230
Webster-Southbridge		26,100	26,150	26,000

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job withing 30 days.

, UNEMPLOYMENT

LABOR AREAS

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TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
Dec. 1974	Nov. R/ 1974	Dec. R/ 1973	Dec. 1974	Nov. R/ 1974	Dec. R/ 1973	Dec. 1974	Nov. 1974	Dec. 1973
2,436,000	2,451,100	2,439,600	251,400	221,900	183,600	9.4	8.3	7.0
						9.9	9.1	7.4
1,170,400	1,171,400	1,166,400	99,500	94,700	81,600	7.8	7.5	6.5
86,800	87,100	86,200	8,400	7,600	6,100	8.8	8.0	6.6
60,000	62,100	65,000	7,100	5,500	4,900	10.6	8.1	7.0
105,800	106,300	105,100	10,000	9,100	8,800	8.6	7.9	7.7
90,500	90,900	91,100	11,600	11,300	6,600	11.4	11.1	6.8
62,600	63,800	65,700	8,800	7,700	5,100	12.3	10.8	7.2
206,200	208,700	209,900	19,900	18,100	15,300	8.8	8.0	6.8
143,900	144,800	144,800	12,700	10,700	8,700	8.1	6.9	5.7
13,000	13,350	13,650	1,050	800	800	7.5	5.7	5.5
10,370	11,160	11,190	1,780	1,620	1,450	14.7	12.7	11.5
8,520	8,790	9,540	1,080	900	590	11.3	9.3	5.8
41,000	41,600	43,600	6,300	5,300	3,400	13.3	11.3	7.2
14,150	14,200	14,750	1,750	1,250	900	11.0	8.1	5.8
15,950	16,700	16,160	2,160	1,940	1,800	11.9	10.4	10.0
9,670	9,590	9,900	790	680	510	7.6	6.6	4.9
23,900	24,250	23,500	2,100	1,800	1,750	8.1	6.9	6.9
39,500	39,500	39,100	3,100	3,000	1,800	7.3	7.1	4.4
20,050	20,400	20,700	2,400	2,200	1,600	10.7	9.7	7.2
2,220	2,240	1,960	230	180	140	9.4	7.4	6.7
19,950	20,500	20,950	3,000	2,700	2,100	13.1	11.6	9.1
18,500	19,350	18,650	2,000	1,750	1,450	9.8	8.3	7.2
34,150	34,500	33,550	3,350	3,100	2,750	8.9	8.2	7.6
12,740	12,930	13,620	2,310	2,520	1,410	15.3	16.3	9.4
36,100	37,150	36,500	3,550	2,900	2,700	9.0	7.2	6.9
2,970	3,000	3,170	390	280	310	11.6	8.5	8.9
10,170	10,390	10,030	1,580	1,480	1,200	13.4	12.5	10.7
23,550	23,850	24,500	2,550	2,300	1,500	9.8	8.8	5.8

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment∅	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,462.0	2,299.0	163.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,489.0	2,329.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,565.0	2,394.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
December	2,623.2	2,439.6	183.6	7.0	4.5	7.4	4.8
1974							
January	2,572.8	2,375.2	197.6	7.7	5.6	7.4	5.2
February	2,584.8	2,379.4	205.4	7.9	5.7	7.4	5.2
March	2,598.4	2,390.3	208.1	8.0	5.3	7.6	5.1
April	2,620.0	2,416.2	203.8	7.8	4.8	7.8	5.0
May	2,636.4	2,436.5	199.9	7.6	4.6	7.6	5.2
June	2,699.6	2,456.5	243.1	9.0	5.8	8.0	5.2
July	2,662.5	2,424.1	238.4	9.0	5.6	8.0	5.3
August	2,653.5	2,439.8	213.7	8.1	5.3	8.1	5.4
September	2,647.1	2,452.7	194.4	7.3	5.7	8.3	5.8
October	2,647.1	2,457.9	189.2	7.1	5.5	8.4	6.0
November	2,673.0	2,451.1	221.9	8.3	6.2	9.1	6.5
December	2,687.4	2,436.0	251.4	9.4	6.7	9.9	7.1

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ∅-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

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Vol 2 - No. 1 Data for January 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment in Massachusetts continued to rise in January, but the rate of increase was again less than for the country as a whole. Nationally, the unemployment rate jumped from 7.2 percent in December to 8.2 percent in January after allowance was made for normal seasonal patterns. The comparable Massachusetts rate increased from a revised 9.5 percent to 10.0 percent.

Estimates of the state's unemployed increased from 240,100 workers in December to 275,700 in January while estimated employment dropped by 62,400 in the month to 2,372,500 in January. The drop in employment was nearly normal for the month: the rise in unemployment was due largely to the smaller than usual number who withdrew from the labor force in January.

The Massachusetts unemployment rate is now at its highest level since the 1949-1950 period when tens of thousands of textile jobs were lost in mill closings. However, the current situation does not begin to approach the mass unemployment of the 1930's. For example, total unemployment in Massachusetts in January 1934 hit 19 percent while another 6 percent were on government subsidized jobs and an additional 10 percent were partially unemployed. Likewise, the current national unemployment rate is higher than at any time since the depression of the 1930's.

During 1972 and 1973 the state's recovery lagged behind the rest of the nation as a result of permanent cutbacks in defense and aerospace procurement. In 1974, however, with the United States economy sliding into a deep recession, employment in Massachusetts has declined less.

Total employment in January was only 0.1 percent below the all-time peak for the month reached in January 1974; the sag in employment nationally was substantially more pronounced. A major downturn was experienced in the construction industry where employment fell about 9 percent during 1974 in both the state and the nation. Employment in the important durable goods manufacturing sector declined considerably less in Massachusetts than in the nation as a whole.

The rise in state unemployment over the year was primarily due to an inability to generate new jobs to employ the expanding labor force rather than any major job losses. Nationally, the increase in the number unemployed was more evenly divided between job losers and labor force recruits.

While total Massachusetts employment in January was virtually unchanged from a year earlier, the industrial composition changed substantially. Major growth occurred in state and local government, retail trade, and services industries, particularly in health, educational, and legal services and in research and development. These gains were offset by losses of some 10,700 jobs in construction--reflecting the national downturn--and 33,500 jobs in manufacturing, largely in the long-term declining nondurable goods industries such as textiles, shoes, and apparel.

Unemployment in all eight major metropolitan areas rose seasonally with the New Bedford area continuing to register the highest rate--16.0 percent (not seasonally adjusted). The sharp jump was caused by job losses in area textiles, apparel, and construction together with resident commuters who were laid off in neighboring industrial areas of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The Fall River area experienced a similar sharp rise to 13.9 percent while trading and service centers like Boston and capital goods manufacturing centers like Worcester and Springfield experienced somewhat smaller increases in the number unemployed in line with seasonal trends.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		January 1975	December 1974 R/	January 1974 R/
Massachusetts		2,648,200	2,675,000	2,572,800
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	D	1,249,600	1,270,200	1,223,700
Brockton	D	93,700	95,400	91,100
Fall River	D	67,500	66,800	68,600
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	115,300	115,900	112,700
Lowell	D	102,600	102,100	95,300
New Bedford	D	71,200	71,200	69,300
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	233,900	236,500	230,800
Worcester	D	153,000	156,600	150,600
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		13,650	14,050	13,850
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		12,220	12,150	12,170
Clinton		9,650	9,600	10,060
Fitchburg-Leominster		47,200	47,300	46,700
Gardner		15,850	15,900	15,550
Gloucester		17,550	18,110	17,150
Great Barrington		10,330	10,460	9,990
Greenfield		25,450	26,000	24,700
Marlboro		42,400	42,600	37,400
Milford		21,450	22,250	21,500
Nantucket		2,210	2,450	1,960
Newburyport		23,250	22,950	23,250
North Adams		19,850	20,500	20,250
Pittsfield		36,950	37,500	35,950
Plymouth		15,970	15,980	14,650
Taunton		38,600	39,650	38,000
Tisbury		3,080	3,360	2,950
Ware		11,850	11,750	11,370
Webster-Southbridge		25,950	26,100	25,850

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT

ABOR AREAS

DS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
January 1975	December 1974 R/	January 1974 R/	January 1975	December 1974 R/	January 1974 R/	Jan. 1975	Dec. 1974	Jan. 1974
2,372,500	2,434,900	2,375,200	275,700	240,100	197,600			
						10.4	9.0	7.7
						10.0	9.5	7.4
1,135,500	1,170,700	1,135,000	114,100	99,500	88,700	9.1	7.8	7.2
84,100	87,000	84,200	9,600	8,400	6,900	10.2	8.8	7.6
58,100	59,700	62,800	9,400	7,100	5,800	13.9	10.6	8.5
103,500	105,800	103,400	11,800	10,100	9,300	10.2	8.7	8.3
89,700	90,500	88,400	12,900	11,600	6,900	12.6	11.4	7.2
59,800	62,500	63,100	11,400	8,700	6,200	16.0	12.2	8.9
208,700	216,400	213,600	25,200	20,100	17,200	10.8	8.5	7.5
138,800	143,900	141,400	14,200	12,700	9,200	9.3	8.1	6.1
12,650	13,000	12,950	1,000	1,050	900	7.3	7.5	6.5
9,910	10,370	10,370	2,310	1,780	1,800	18.9	14.7	14.8
8,300	8,520	9,500	1,350	1,080	560	14.0	11.3	5.6
40,000	41,000	42,700	7,200	6,300	4,000	15.3	13.3	8.6
13,600	14,150	14,500	2,250	1,750	1,050	14.2	11.0	6.8
14,900	15,950	15,150	2,650	2,160	2,000	15.1	11.9	11.7
9,380	9,670	9,340	950	790	650	9.2	7.6	6.5
22,750	23,900	22,700	2,700	2,100	2,000	10.6	8.1	8.1
38,500	39,500	35,300	3,900	3,100	2,100	9.2	7.3	5.6
18,500	19,850	19,750	2,950	2,400	1,750	13.8	10.8	8.1
1,900	2,220	1,770	310	230	170	14.0	9.4	8.7
19,750	19,950	20,900	3,500	3,000	2,350	15.1	13.1	10.1
17,500	18,500	18,650	2,350	2,000	1,600	11.8	9.8	7.9
33,200	34,150	32,900	3,750	3,350	3,050	10.1	8.9	8.5
12,130	12,960	12,670	3,840	3,020	1,980	24.0	18.9	13.5
34,100	36,100	35,000	4,500	3,550	3,000	11.7	9.0	7.9
2,590	2,970	2,560	490	390	390	15.9	11.6	13.2
9,930	10,170	9,860	1,920	1,580	1,510	16.2	13.4	13.3
22,750	23,550	24,100	3,200	2,550	1,750	12.3	9.8	6.8

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentø	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,462.0	2,299.0	163.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,489.0	2,329.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,565.0	2,394.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,639.2	2,426.2	213.0	8.1	5.6	8.1	5.6
January	2,572.8	2,375.2	197.6	7.7	5.6	7.4	5.2
February	2,584.8	2,379.4	205.4	7.9	5.7	7.4	5.2
March	2,598.4	2,390.3	208.1	8.0	5.3	7.6	5.1
April	2,620.0	2,416.2	203.8	7.8	4.8	7.8	5.0
May	2,636.4	2,436.5	199.9	7.6	4.6	7.6	5.2
June	2,699.6	2,456.5	243.1	9.0	5.8	8.0	5.2
July	2,662.5	2,424.1	238.4	9.0	5.6	8.0	5.3
August	2,653.5	2,439.8	213.7	8.1	5.3	8.1	5.4
September	2,647.1	2,452.7	194.4	7.3	5.7	8.3	5.8
October	2,647.1	2,457.9	189.2	7.1	5.5	8.4	6.0
November	2,673.0	2,451.1	221.9	8.3	6.2	9.1	6.6
December	2,675.0	2,434.9	240.1	9.0	6.7	9.5	7.2
1975 January	2,648.2	2,372.5	275.7	10.4	9.0	10.0	8.2

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vol. 2 - No. 2 Data for February 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

The Commonwealth's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to an estimated 11 percent in February from a revised 9.9 percent in January. The increase was due largely to a federally-mandated change in the method of computing unemployment figures rather than to declining economic conditions.

The U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics recently ordered states to include in their unemployment figures recipients of the Federal Supplemental Benefits (FSB) program. Thousands of Massachusetts residents--including many retirees--who became eligible in January for an additional five to thirteen weeks of unemployment benefits under FSB are now, according to a recent Bureau directive, counted as unemployed. In order to receive FSB benefits persons are required to look for work, and thus have technically re-entered the labor force. Before the FSB program was established, the Bureau assumed that some of these people had dropped out of the labor force after exhausting all previous benefits.

Employment losses from January to February 1975 were relatively light. Manufacturing employment continued to decline except in the ordnance and apparel industries. Construction employment dropped some 12,000 below the February 1974 figure, and is at its lowest level since 1971.

Other nonmanufacturing industries did relatively well in the month as seasonal losses in wholesale and retail trade were offset by expansions in education, business and health services. Public sector employment also climbed as the federal government added seasonal tax personnel and state and local governments hired public service workers under the Comprehensive Training and Employment Act (CETA).

The number of unemployed persons rose from 276,100 in January to 320,600 in February, with two-thirds of the increase (approximately 30,000 people) reflecting the increase of FSB recipients. While the numbers look higher under the new program, more people are getting federal benefits, and more federal funds are being funneled into the Massachusetts economy.

In the 12-month period ending February 1975, nonagricultural employment in Massachusetts dropped only one percent--or 22,000--as compared with two percent nationwide. In the same period, the estimated number of unemployed persons has risen from 199,200 to 320,600. But this is due partly to a growth in the labor force of 106,000, of which at least 37,000 is due to the new computation methods.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		Feb. 1975	Jan. 1975 R/	Feb. 1974 R/
Massachusetts		2,699,400	2,668,100	2,593,500
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	D	1,237,900	1,224,200	1,206,900
Brockton	D	94,300	93,400	90,500
Fall River	E	67,600	67,500	68,000
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	118,100	116,300	112,400
Lowell	D	101,000	102,300	95,800
New Bedford	D	70,300	71,000	69,600
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	236,500	234,900	229,500
Worcester	D	154,800	153,800	150,800
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		13,850	13,800	13,700
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		12,110	11,840	12,280
Clinton		9,870	9,780	10,140
Fitchburg-Leominster		47,800	47,100	46,500
Gardner		16,000	15,900	15,550
Gloucester		17,530	17,570	16,860
Great Barrington		9,990	10,280	9,860
Greenfield		25,000	25,300	24,500
Marlboro		42,550	42,600	40,400
Milford		21,850	21,800	22,100
Nantucket		2,110	2,150	1,920
Newburyport		24,250	24,000	23,350
North Adams		20,650	20,100	20,100
Pittsfield		37,100	36,750	35,600
Plymouth		16,560	15,580	14,370
Taunton		39,250	38,750	37,900
Tisbury		3,070	3,070	3,110
Ware		12,170	12,060	10,820
Webster-Southbridge		26,550	26,250	25,850

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT

LABOR AREAS

ODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
Feb. 1975	Jan. R/ 1975	Feb. R/ 1974	Feb. 1975	Jan. R/ 1975	Feb. R/ 1974	Feb. 1975	Jan. 1975	Feb. 1974
2,378,800	2,392,000	2,394,300	320,600	276,100	199,200	11.9	10.3	7.7
						11.0	9.9	7.1
1,102,600	1,111,100	1,115,400	135,300	113,100	91,500	10.9	9.2	7.6
83,100	83,900	83,900	11,200	9,500	6,600	11.9	10.2	7.3
57,700	58,300	62,500	9,900	9,200	5,500	14.6	13.6	8.1
103,300	103,500	104,100	14,800	12,800	8,300	12.5	11.0	7.4
87,900	89,700	88,500	13,100	12,600	7,300	13.0	12.3	7.6
58,700	59,800	63,600	11,600	11,200	6,000	16.5	15.8	8.6
205,900	209,000	213,300	30,600	25,900	16,200	12.9	11.0	7.1
138,000	138,800	141,600	16,800	15,000	9,200	10.9	9.8	6.1
12,500	12,650	12,800	1,350	1,150	900	9.7	8.3	6.6
9,880	9,910	10,300	2,230	1,930	1,980	18.4	16.3	16.1
8,120	8,300	9,460	1,750	1,480	680	17.7	15.1	6.7
39,600	40,000	42,700	8,200	7,100	3,800	17.2	15.1	8.2
13,600	13,600	14,450	2,400	2,300	1,100	15.0	14.5	7.1
14,750	14,900	15,100	2,780	2,670	1,760	15.9	15.2	10.4
8,970	9,380	9,260	1,020	900	600	10.2	8.8	6.1
22,000	22,750	22,600	3,000	2,550	1,900	12.0	10.1	7.8
38,200	38,450	38,200	4,350	4,150	2,200	10.2	9.7	5.4
17,900	18,300	19,800	3,950	3,500	2,300	18.1	16.1	10.4
1,860	1,900	1,750	250	250	170	11.8	11.6	8.9
20,000	20,150	20,900	4,250	3,850	2,450	17.5	16.0	10.5
17,300	17,500	18,700	3,350	2,600	1,400	16.2	12.9	7.0
32,850	33,200	32,800	4,250	3,550	2,800	11.5	9.7	7.9
12,030	12,130	12,560	4,530	3,450	1,810	27.4	22.1	12.6
33,900	34,100	35,100	5,350	4,650	2,800	13.6	12.0	7.4
2,570	2,590	2,720	500	480	390	16.3	15.6	12.5
9,750	9,930	9,420	2,420	2,130	1,400	19.9	17.7	12.9
22,300	22,750	24,050	4,250	3,500	1,800	16.0	13.3	7.0

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentø	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
February	2,593.5	2,394.3	199.2	7.7	5.7	7.1	5.2
March	2,605.7	2,408.7	197.0	7.6	5.3	7.2	5.1
April	2,620.8	2,436.9	183.9	7.0	4.8	7.1	5.0
May	2,626.7	2,460.9	165.8	6.3	4.6	6.3	5.2
June	2,673.8	2,480.2	193.6	7.2	5.8	6.4	5.2
July	2,648.7	2,448.8	199.9	7.5	5.6	6.7	5.3
August	2,642.3	2,463.2	179.1	6.8	5.3	6.8	5.4
September	2,649.0	2,475.7	173.3	6.5	5.7	7.4	5.8
October	2,656.5	2,480.9	175.6	6.6	5.5	7.8	6.0
November	2,668.9	2,472.4	196.5	7.4	6.2	8.1	6.6
December	2,666.6	2,456.9	219.7	8.2	6.7	8.7	7.2
1975							
January	2,668.1	2,392.0	276.1	10.3	9.0	9.9	8.2
February	2,699.4	2,378.8	320.6	11.9	9.1	11.0	8.2

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vol. 2 - No. 3

Data for March 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Mass. rose to 11.8 percent in March from 11.0 percent in February. As in February, however, the increase was magnified by new Federally-mandated methods of calculating unemployment figures.

The total employment in the Commonwealth rose to 2,392,100 in March, an increase of 14,700 over February. This increase, while slightly below seasonal expectations, may indicate that a stabilization in employment levels has been achieved. However, several months of data will be needed to confirm this apparent trend.

The March estimate of unemployment grew by 20,500, reflecting an increase of 16,000 recipients in various Federal extended benefits programs. Under U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics directives, all these individuals are now counted as unemployed. In past years some of these persons were assumed to have retired and therefore, were no longer counted in the labor force.

Manufacturing employment was down in March for the seventh consecutive month. The capital equipment boom which sparked the durable goods sector during 1973 and most of 1974 has apparently peaked temporarily as manufacturers await an upturn in the economy. Employment in the manufacturing of nondurable goods advanced slightly in March as factories producing textiles, apparel, and leather goods geared to take care of the usual seasonal requirements.

Nonmanufacturing industries posted March gains totalling 11,300 jobs. Most significant were seasonal increases of 3,900 in wholesale and retail trade, and 3,800 in service industries such as education, medical and health services. Construction employment showed a near normal seasonal gain of 2,000 workers, reversing seven consecutive months of losses in this industry.

Over the last 12 months, a substantial increase of 14,400 workers was posted in State and local government, principally as a result of the new Federal public service jobs program. Major expansion in the services also took place in the 12-month period with 20,300 jobs added. The increase was most significant in nongovernmental medical, health, and educational services. Wholesale and retail trade also posted a respectable gain of 5,100 workers over March 1974.

While total manufacturing employment decreased over the last 12 months, an increase of 1,800 jobs was noted in the manufacturing of ordnance resulting from the recent influx of defense contracts. In addition, 2,000 workers were added in transportation equipment due to the settling of a major labor dispute and increased orders in the shipbuilding industry.

From mid-February to mid-March, the number of initial claims for unemployment compensation declined from 19,900 to 15,100 per week while the total number of active claims rose from 290,500 to 306,300.

John D. Crosier, Director of the Division of Employment Security cautioned that estimated of both employment and unemployment are based on new procedures required by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and are not comparable with previously published data.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		Mar. 1975	Feb. 1975 R/	Mar. 1974 R/
Massachusetts		2,733,100	2,697,900	2,605,700
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	D	1,254,800	1,240,100	1,205,300
Brockton	D	98,900	97,500	92,800
Fall River	E	70,600	69,500	69,100
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	123,800	121,600	117,000
Lowell	D	105,200	104,200	98,300
New Bedford	D	72,800	71,900	71,100
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	247,100	244,000	232,000
Worcester	D	170,000	167,000	161,800
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		14,450	14,300	13,950
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		12,800	12,450	12,660
Clinton		10,190	10,150	10,370
Fitchburg-Leominster		49,700	49,100	47,500
Gardner		16,600	16,500	15,800
Gloucester		18,400	18,060	17,590
Great Barrington		10,350	10,240	10,040
Greenfield		26,200	25,900	25,150
Marlboro		44,250	43,900	38,950
Milford		23,800	23,600	22,750
Nantucket		2,300	2,190	2,000
Newburyport		25,500	25,000	23,850
North Adams		21,400	21,200	20,450
Pittsfield		38,400	38,300	36,500
Plymouth		16,520	15,860	15,810
Taunton		40,950	40,400	38,750
Tisbury		3,350	3,220	3,210
Ware		12,600	12,300	11,670
Webster-Southbridge		27,730	27,300	26,600

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

, UNEMPLOYMENT

LABOR AREAS

ODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
Mar. 1975	Feb. R/ 1975	Mar. R/ 1974	Mar. 1975	Feb. R/ 1975	Mar. R/ 1974	Mar. 1975	Feb. 1975	Mar. 1974
2,392,100	2,377,400	2,408,700	341,000	320,500	197,000			
						12.5	11.9	7.6
						11.8	11.0	7.2
1,110,500	1,104,800	1,114,500	144,300	135,300	90,800	11.5	10.9	7.5
87,400	86,500	86,000	11,500	11,000	6,800	11.6	11.3	7.3
60,700	59,800	63,800	9,900	9,700	5,300	14.0	14.0	7.7
108,200	107,000	107,800	15,600	14,600	9,200	12.6	12.0	7.9
91,500	91,300	90,700	13,700	12,900	7,600	13.0	12.4	7.7
61,300	61,000	65,400	11,500	10,900	5,700	15.8	15.2	8.0
215,100	214,000	215,900	32,000	30,000	16,100	13.0	12.3	6.9
150,900	150,300	152,300	19,100	16,700	9,500	11.2	10.0	5.9
12,950	13,000	13,100	1,500	1,300	850	10.4	9.1	6.1
10,580	10,260	10,740	2,220	2,190	1,920	17.3	17.6	15.2
8,520	8,430	9,740	1,670	1,720	630	16.4	16.9	6.1
41,500	41,100	43,800	8,200	8,000	3,700	16.5	16.3	7.8
14,200	14,100	14,800	2,400	2,400	1,000	14.5	14.5	6.3
15,250	15,330	15,680	3,150	2,730	1,910	17.1	15.1	10.9
9,400	9,250	9,400	950	990	640	9.2	9.7	6.4
23,300	22,800	23,250	2,900	3,100	1,900	11.1	12.0	7.6
39,250	39,600	36,350	5,000	4,300	2,600	11.3	9.8	6.7
19,300	19,200	20,500	4,500	4,400	2,250	18.9	18.6	9.9
2,040	1,940	1,850	260	250	150	11.3	11.4	7.5
21,100	20,800	21,350	4,400	4,200	2,500	17.3	16.8	10.5
18,100	17,900	19,050	3,300	3,300	1,400	15.4	15.6	6.8
34,100	34,100	33,600	4,300	4,200	2,900	11.2	11.0	7.9
13,570	13,230	13,770	2,950	2,630	2,040	17.9	16.6	12.9
35,350	35,200	36,000	5,600	5,200	2,750	13.7	12.9	7.1
2,770	2,660	2,830	580	560	380	17.3	17.4	11.8
9,980	9,900	10,240	2,620	2,400	1,430	20.8	19.5	12.3
23,330	23,100	24,650	4,400	4,200	1,950	15.9	15.4	7.3

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentø	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
March	2,605.7	2,408.7	197.0	7.6	5.3	7.2	5.1
April	2,620.8	2,436.9	183.9	7.0	4.8	7.1	5.0
May	2,626.7	2,460.9	165.8	6.3	4.6	6.3	5.2
June	2,673.8	2,480.2	193.6	7.2	5.8	6.4	5.2
July	2,648.7	2,448.8	199.9	7.5	5.6	6.7	5.3
August	2,642.3	2,463.2	179.1	6.8	5.3	6.8	5.4
September	2,649.0	2,475.7	173.3	6.5	5.7	7.4	5.8
October	2,656.5	2,480.9	175.6	6.6	5.5	7.3	6.0
November	2,668.9	2,472.4	196.5	7.4	6.2	8.1	6.6
December	2,666.6	2,456.9	219.7	8.2	6.7	8.7	7.2
1975							
January	2,668.1	2,392.0	276.1	10.3	9.0	9.9	8.2
February	2,697.9	2,377.4	320.5	11.9	9.1	11.0	8.2
March	2,733.1	2,392.1	341.0	12.5	9.1	11.8	8.7

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

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Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vol 2 - No. 4 Data for April 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Although the number of persons unemployed in Massachusetts declined by nearly 6,000 in April, the State's unemployment rate increased as a result of adjustments for seasonal factors. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose from 11.8 percent in March to 12.3 percent in April since the spring pickup was less than normal for the month.

The rise in employment was limited by below average seasonal gains in construction, wholesale and retail trade, and service industries. The decline in the number of unemployed was also below seasonal expectations, largely due to revised estimating procedures established by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in January 1975. Nearly 120,000 persons -- 35% of the total unemployed -- who had exhausted regular unemployment benefits as far back as 1970, were claiming benefits under the new extended programs in April.

The increase of 59,000 persons in the unemployment estimates from January through April is largely the result of the build-up of claimants from 64,000 in January to 120,000 in April in the new extended benefits program. This build-up did not reflect recent layoffs, but rather the time necessary to implement and publicize such a large program to several hundred thousand potential eligibles.

The eight-month decline in manufacturing payrolls slowed somewhat in April, with the nondurable goods sector posting the best March-to-April gain in nine years. This 800 job increase was principally in the textile, apparel, and plastics industries and can be attributed to shrinking inventories and the anticipated rise in disposable incomes. Employment in the durable goods industries continued downward, with an aggregate loss of 3,900 in the month concentrated in metals and machinery industries.

Employment in nonmanufacturing industries showed a seasonal gain of 17,800 in April. Construction jobs increased by 7,200 in the month but remained 11,000 below last April. Wholesale and retail trade -- led by eating and drinking places, building supplies, apparel and food stores -- added 6,300 workers. Payrolls in service industries gained by 5,400, primarily in amusement, recreation, and hotel services. Personnel in the state and local government declined in April although the number of CETA-financed public service jobs continued to grow in both the state and local sectors.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSIFICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		April 1975	March R/ 1975	April R/ 1974
Massachusetts		2,745,700	2,735,100	2,620,800
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	D	1,257,800	1,254,200	1,207,700
Brockton	D	99,100	99,000	93,700
Fall River	E	71,000	70,700	68,000
Lawrence-Haverhill	D	123,900	124,000	115,100
Lowell	D	106,200	105,400	99,300
New Bedford	D	75,900	75,100	73,100
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	D	247,500	247,500	233,400
Worcester	D	164,900	165,900	157,900
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		14,350	14,400	14,900
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		13,370	12,820	12,990
Clinton		9,990	10,210	10,630
Fitchburg-Leominster		49,700	49,800	47,450
Gardner		16,500	16,600	15,750
Gloucester		18,800	18,700	18,600
Great Barrington		10,370	10,360	10,360
Greenfield		26,550	26,200	25,300
Mariboro		44,800	44,350	42,450
Milford		23,800	23,850	23,550
Nantucket		2,430	2,300	2,310
Newburyport		25,200	25,800	24,200
North Adams		21,600	21,400	20,300
Pittsfield		38,350	38,450	36,700
Plymouth		17,790	16,550	16,280
Taunton		41,750	41,050	39,600
Tisbury		3,460	3,350	3,570
Ware		12,550	12,640	11,590
Webster-Southbridge		27,600	27,800	26,250

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT

LABOR AREAS

DDS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
April 1975	March[R] 1975	April[R] 1974	April 1975	March[R] 1975	April[R] 1974	Apr. 1975	Mar. 1975	Apr. 1974
2,410,500	2,394,000	2,436,900	335,200	341,100	183,900			
						12.2	12.5	7.0
						12.3	11.8	7.1
1,118,200	1,111,500	1,121,800	139,600	142,700	85,900	11.1	11.4	7.1
87,600	87,500	87,500	11,500	11,500	6,200	11.6	11.6	6.6
62,000	60,700	63,200	9,000	10,000	4,800	12.7	14.1	7.1
108,000	108,400	107,600	15,900	15,600	7,500	12.8	12.6	6.5
92,400	91,600	92,200	13,800	13,800	7,100	13.0	13.1	7.2
63,300	62,300	66,600	12,600	12,800	6,500	16.6	17.0	8.9
214,000	215,300	218,000	33,500	32,200	15,400	13.5	13.0	6.6
146,600	146,800	148,900	18,300	19,100	9,000	11.1	11.5	5.7
13,050	12,950	14,000	1,300	1,450	900	9.1	10.1	6.0
11,200	10,580	11,320	2,170	2,240	1,670	16.2	17.5	12.9
8,410	8,530	10,000	1,580	1,680	630	15.8	16.5	5.9
41,600	41,600	44,000	8,100	8,200	3,450	16.3	16.5	7.3
14,150	14,200	14,850	2,350	2,400	900	14.2	14.5	5.7
15,650	15,550	16,950	3,150	3,150	1,650	16.8	16.8	8.9
9,390	9,410	9,770	980	950	590	9.5	9.2	5.7
23,450	23,300	23,400	3,100	2,900	1,900	11.7	11.1	7.5
39,700	39,300	40,300	5,100	5,050	2,150	11.4	11.4	5.1
19,450	19,300	21,700	4,350	4,550	1,850	18.3	19.1	7.9
2,210	2,040	2,170	220	260	140	9.1	11.3	6.1
21,050	21,400	21,450	4,150	4,400	2,750	16.5	17.1	11.4
18,050	18,100	19,000	3,550	3,300	1,300	16.4	15.4	6.4
34,050	34,100	33,950	4,300	4,350	2,750	11.2	11.3	7.5
14,850	13,580	14,460	2,940	2,970	1,820	16.5	17.9	11.2
36,750	35,400	37,150	5,000	5,650	2,450	12.0	13.8	6.2
2,950	2,770	3,310	510	580	260	14.7	17.3	7.3
10,070	10,000	10,320	2,480	2,640	1,270	19.8	20.9	11.0
23,100	23,350	24,450	4,500	4,450	1,800	16.3	16.0	6.9

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentø	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
April	2,620.8	2,436.9	183.9	7.0	4.8	7.1	5.0
May	2,626.7	2,460.9	165.8	6.3	4.6	6.3	5.2
June	2,673.8	2,480.2	193.6	7.2	5.8	6.4	5.2
July	2,648.7	2,448.8	199.9	7.5	5.6	6.7	5.3
August	2,642.3	2,463.2	179.1	6.8	5.3	6.8	5.4
September	2,649.0	2,475.7	173.3	6.5	5.7	7.4	5.8
October	2,656.5	2,480.9	175.6	6.6	5.5	7.8	6.0
November	2,668.9	2,472.4	196.5	7.4	6.2	8.1	6.6
December	2,676.6	2,456.9	219.7	8.2	6.7	8.7	7.2
1975							
January	2,668.1	2,392.0	276.1	10.3	9.0	9.9	8.2
February	2,697.9	2,377.4	320.5	11.9	9.1	11.0	8.2
March	2,735.1	2,394.0	341.1	12.5	9.1	11.8	8.7
April	2,745.7	2,410.5	335.2	12.2	8.6	12.3	8.9

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

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Vol 2 - No. 5 Data for May 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

MAY HIGHLIGHTS

Following the national trend, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in Massachusetts climbed to 12.6 percent in May from 12.3 percent in April. The increase can not be attributed to recent layoffs. The estimated unemployment rose because of a build-up in unemployment insurance claims resulting from new Federal extended benefits programs initiated in January.

A nine-month decline in factory payrolls slowed down considerably in May. In fact, the soft goods producing sector added 2,300 workers, the best April-to-May gain in 16 years. Some 1,900 additional jobs appeared in the apparel, leather and leather products (footwear in particular) and the rubber and plastics industries, a more than normal seasonal gain for the month. The rise in employment in these industries was the direct result of increases in May in disposable income and consumer confidence which led to increased demand for goods. Declining employment in the hard goods sector began to slow down as orders for capital goods started to improve.

Employment in nonfactory industries moved ahead seasonally in May, resulting in a gain of 11,500 jobs over the month. Payrolls in services industries gained by 4,900, primarily in hotels, education, amusement and recreation services. The services industry reached the 530,500 job level in May, equalling employment in wholesale and retail trade for the first time. Services will replace trade in the future as the industry with the largest employment in the state. Contract construction, hampered by the lull in housing construction, added 4,100 in the month, still 11,300 below last May. The 2,900-worker gain in wholesale and retail trade was less than normal for the month.

Total nonagricultural employment advanced by 10,500 over the month, but still remains 29,500 below last year's level, due to the severity of the recession. In the manufacturing division only companies producing ordnance and transportation equipment registered an increase in payrolls over the 12 months, due to continued government contracts and demand for liquified natural gas tankers. In the nonmanufacturing division, the largest growth in personnel took place in the services industries (medical, educational, legal, amusement and recreational), followed by State and Local Government (in part due to CETA and other Public Service Jobs).

Even though the unemployment rate in the New Bedford SMSA dropped by nearly two percentage points from April to May, at 14.7 percent it still remains the area with the highest unemployment rate in the state. All areas except the Boston SMSA remained in the 12 to 13 percent range.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		May 1975	April R/ 1975	May R/ 1974
Massachusetts		2,782,400	2,746,700	2,626,700
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	E	1,275,300	1,258,100	1,204,700
Brockton	E	101,500	100,600	95,200
Fall River	F	72,600	72,900	70,100
Lawrence-Haverhill	E	126,000	125,700	117,300
Lowell	D	107,300	108,100	101,000
New Bedford	F	75,300	76,900	73,400
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	E	253,100	251,000	238,200
Worcester	E	170,400	167,300	161,200
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		14,750	14,550	14,500
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		13,950	13,600	13,200
Clinton		10,270	10,130	10,630
Fitchburg-Leominster		51,200	50,400	48,500
Gardner		16,700	16,750	15,950
Gloucester		19,200	19,050	19,100
Great Barrington		10,940	10,530	10,660
Greenfield		27,050	26,950	25,850
Marlboro		45,350	45,450	43,000
Milford		24,000	23,800	22,700
Nantucket		2,700	2,470	2,640
Newburyport		26,350	25,600	24,250
North Adams		21,400	21,900	20,750
Pittsfield		39,550	38,950	37,500
Plymouth		17,510	17,360	16,930
Taunton		43,150	42,450	40,850
Tisbury		3,840	3,520	3,790
Ware		13,900	12,720	12,120
Webster-Southbridge		27,800	28,000	26,550

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT

ABOR AREAS

DS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
May 1975	April[R/] 1975	May[R/] 1974	May 1975	April[R/] 1975	May[R/] 1974	May 1975	Apr. 1975	May 1974
2,432,200	2,411,500	2,460,900	350,200	335,200	165,800			
						12.6	12.2	6.3
						12.6	12.3	6.3
1,126,900	1,118,500	1,125,900	148,400	139,600	78,800	11.6	11.1	6.5
88,700	89,000	89,200	12,800	11,600	6,000	12.6	11.5	6.3
62,900	63,100	65,900	9,700	9,800	4,200	13.4	13.4	6.0
108,700	109,500	110,400	17,300	16,200	6,900	13.7	12.9	5.9
93,600	94,100	93,900	13,700	14,000	7,100	12.8	13.0	7.0
64,200	64,200	68,700	11,100	12,700	4,700	14.7	16.5	6.4
218,900	217,300	223,800	34,200	33,700	14,400	13.5	13.4	6.0
149,100	148,900	152,900	21,300	18,400	8,300	12.5	11.0	5.1
13,350	13,250	13,850	1,400	1,300	650	9.5	8.9	4.5
11,850	11,400	11,900	2,100	2,200	1,300	15.1	16.2	9.8
8,590	8,540	10,090	1,680	1,590	540	16.4	15.7	5.1
42,600	42,300	45,300	8,600	8,100	3,200	16.8	16.1	6.6
14,350	14,400	15,150	2,350	2,350	800	14.1	14.0	5.0
16,100	15,900	17,400	3,100	3,150	1,700	16.2	16.5	8.9
9,930	9,540	10,180	1,010	990	480	9.2	9.4	4.5
24,000	23,800	24,250	3,050	3,150	1,600	11.3	11.7	6.2
40,550	40,350	41,050	4,800	5,100	1,950	10.6	11.2	4.5
19,400	19,450	21,100	4,600	4,350	1,600	19.2	18.3	7.0
2,530	2,250	2,530	170	220	110	6.3	8.9	4.2
21,550	21,400	22,250	4,800	4,200	2,000	18.3	16.4	8.2
18,150	18,300	19,550	3,250	3,600	1,200	15.2	16.4	5.8
34,800	34,600	35,100	4,750	4,350	2,400	12.0	11.2	6.4
14,690	14,400	15,100	2,820	2,960	1,830	16.1	17.1	10.8
37,700	37,300	38,550	5,450	5,150	2,300	12.6	12.1	5.6
3,360	3,000	3,640	480	520	150	12.5	14.8	4.0
10,460	10,220	10,930	3,440	2,500	1,190	24.7	19.7	9.8
23,450	23,450	24,950	4,350	4,550	1,600	15.6	16.2	6.0

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentø	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
May	2,626.7	2,460.9	165.8	6.3	4.6	6.3	5.2
June	2,673.8	2,480.2	193.6	7.2	5.8	6.4	5.2
July	2,648.7	2,448.8	199.9	7.5	5.6	6.7	5.3
August	2,642.3	2,463.2	179.1	6.8	5.3	6.8	5.4
September	2,649.0	2,475.7	173.3	6.5	5.7	7.4	5.8
October	2,656.5	2,480.9	175.6	6.6	5.5	7.8	6.0
November	2,668.9	2,472.4	196.5	7.4	6.2	8.1	6.6
December	2,676.6	2,456.9	219.7	8.2	6.7	8.7	7.2
1975							
January	2,668.1	2,392.0	276.1	10.3	9.0	9.9	8.2
February	2,697.9	2,377.4	320.5	11.9	9.1	11.0	8.2
March	2,735.1	2,394.0	341.1	12.5	9.1	11.8	8.7
April	2,746.7	2,411.5	335.2	12.2	8.6	12.3	8.9
May	2,782.4	2,432.2	350.2	12.6	8.3	12.6	9.2

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

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Vol. 2 - No. 6 Data for June 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

The Massachusetts unemployment rate for the month of June, seasonally adjusted, dropped to 12.3 percent from the May level of 12.8 percent. This drop was the result of statistical procedures used in the seasonal adjustment process, however, and does not reflect any major changes in the State's economy.

A similar sizeable decline took place in national unemployment during June when the rate dropped to 8.6 percent from 9.2 percent in May.

Changes in unemployment in June in Massachusetts are strongly affected by the large numbers of students and graduates entering the labor market and by seasonal rises in employment in resorts and amusements. Seasonal adjustment procedures based on past trends may overcorrect when the unemployment level becomes exceptionally high and thus result in an understated rate in June. The adjusted unemployment rates for May and June should therefore be viewed with caution.

Some signs of improvement were visible in the Massachusetts employment situation from May to June. Employment in the important durable goods manufacturing sector increased slightly after posting eleven months of uninterrupted decline. A major gain was noted in nonelectrical machinery, especially of computers, turbines, and office equipment.

In nondurable goods such as textiles, apparel, plastics, and leather goods a seasonal growth in employment was experienced in the April to June quarter. This gain indicates that these industries have probably reverted to the longterm slow decline that preceded the sharp drop off in the last half of 1974.

Employment in the nonmanufacturing sector experienced a less than normal growth in the quarter primarily as a result of the continuing depressed condition of the construction industry.

Unemployment rates for the state's eight major metropolitan areas followed the pattern experienced at the state level prior to adjustment for seasonal factors. The Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA had the highest unemployment rate at 15.7 percent, and Boston the lowest at 12.8 percent.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSIFICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		June 1975	May R/ 1975	June R/ 1974
Massachusetts		2,840,100	2,781,000	2,673,800
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	E	1,298,600	1,275,200	1,226,500
Brockton	E	102,900	101,800	95,300
Fall River	F	73,600	72,700	69,100
Lawrence-Haverhill	E	128,900	126,600	117,500
Lowell	D	111,700	108,600	102,800
New Bedford	F	78,100	75,800	73,700
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	E	258,700	253,700	252,400
Worcester	E	171,700	170,000	161,600
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		15,300	14,800	14,650
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		15,690	13,550	13,710
Clinton		10,240	10,290	10,570
Fitchburg-Leominster		52,400	51,300	48,900
Gardner		17,200	16,750	16,100
Gloucester		20,000	19,200	19,800
Great Barrington		11,550	10,960	11,020
Greenfield		28,000	27,100	26,100
Marlboro		47,200	45,450	43,600
Milford		24,550	24,250	23,050
Nantucket		3,710	2,700	3,560
Newburyport		27,100	26,400	24,900
North Adams		22,500	21,450	21,000
Pittsfield		40,550	39,650	37,900
Plymouth		18,070	17,550	16,800
Taunton		44,400	43,250	40,850
Tisbury		3,930	3,840	4,380
Ware		13,520	13,920	12,180
Webster-Southbridge		28,550	27,900	26,700

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT

LABOR AREAS

ODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
June 1975	May R/ 1975	June R/ 1974	June 1975	May R/ 1975	June R/ 1974	June 1975	May 1975	June 1974
2,445,900	2,430,800	2,480,200	394,200	350,200	193,600			
						13.9	12.6	7.2
						12.3	12.8	6.4
1,132,300	1,126,600	1,134,700	166,300	148,600	91,800	12.8	11.7	7.5
89,000	89,100	88,300	13,900	12,700	7,000	13.5	12.5	7.3
63,700	63,100	64,900	9,900	9,600	4,200	13.5	13.2	6.1
108,700	109,300	109,500	20,200	17,300	8,000	15.7	13.7	6.8
94,700	94,000	93,600	17,000	14,600	9,200	15.2	13.4	8.9
66,200	64,700	68,500	11,900	11,100	5,200	15.2	14.6	7.1
218,700	219,500	235,800	40,000	34,200	16,600	15.5	13.5	6.6
148,500	149,400	151,500	23,200	20,600	10,100	13.5	12.1	6.2
13,400	13,400	13,850	1,900	1,400	800	12.4	9.5	5.5
13,190	11,870	12,480	2,500	1,680	1,230	15.9	12.4	9.0
8,420	8,610	9,870	1,820	1,680	700	17.8	16.3	6.6
43,000	42,700	44,900	9,400	8,600	4,000	17.9	16.8	8.2
14,550	14,400	15,100	2,650	2,350	1,000	15.4	14.0	6.2
16,700	16,100	17,950	3,300	3,100	1,850	16.5	16.1	9.3
10,340	9,960	10,520	1,210	1,000	500	10.5	9.1	4.5
24,400	24,050	24,250	3,600	3,050	1,850	12.9	11.3	7.1
40,900	40,650	41,100	6,300	4,800	2,500	13.3	10.6	5.7
19,300	19,650	20,700	5,250	4,600	2,350	21.4	19.0	10.2
3,560	2,530	3,450	150	170	110	4.0	6.3	3.1
21,700	21,650	22,300	5,400	4,750	2,600	19.9	18.0	10.4
18,750	18,200	19,650	3,750	3,250	1,350	16.7	15.2	6.4
35,150	34,900	35,050	5,400	4,750	2,850	13.3	12.0	7.5
15,160	14,730	15,180	2,910	2,820	1,620	16.1	16.1	9.6
38,200	37,800	38,150	6,200	5,450	2,700	14.0	12.6	6.6
3,460	3,370	4,240	470	470	140	12.0	12.2	3.2
10,500	10,490	10,910	3,020	3,430	1,270	22.3	24.6	10.4
23,500	23,550	24,750	5,050	4,350	1,950	17.7	15.6	7.3

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment∅	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
June	2,673.8	2,480.2	193.6	7.2	5.8	6.4	5.2
July	2,648.7	2,448.8	199.9	7.5	5.6	6.7	5.3
August	2,642.3	2,463.2	179.1	6.8	5.3	6.8	5.4
September	2,649.0	2,475.7	173.3	6.5	5.7	7.4	5.8
October	2,656.5	2,480.9	175.6	6.6	5.5	7.8	6.0
November	2,668.9	2,472.4	196.5	7.4	6.2	8.1	6.6
December	2,676.6	2,456.9	219.7	8.2	6.7	8.7	7.2
1975							
January	2,668.1	2,392.0	276.1	10.3	9.0	9.9	8.2
February	2,697.9	2,377.4	320.5	11.9	9.1	11.0	8.2
March	2,735.1	2,394.0	341.1	12.5	9.1	11.8	8.7
April	2,746.7	2,411.5	335.2	12.2	8.6	12.3	8.9
May	2,781.0	2,430.8	350.2	12.6	8.3	12.8	9.2
June	2,840.1	2,445.9	394.2	13.9	9.1	12.3	8.6

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ∅-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

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Vol. 2 - No. 7 Data for July 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

JULY HIGHLIGHTS

The Massachusetts unemployment rate remained steady in July at a seasonally adjusted 12.3 percent of the labor force. While the number of unemployed workers in the Commonwealth dropped slightly, the rate was unchanged as the number of persons employed also fell in the June to July period. July's estimate of unemployed persons was 389,500 persons, compared to the June estimate of 394,200. This drop resulted primarily from students and other summertime workers dropping out of the labor force when they decided that jobs could not be secured.

Total manufacturing employment fell by 18,800 in July reflecting the lagging effects of the general business slowdown, and traditional July vacation shutdowns in both durable and nondurable goods industries. Only the ordnance industry,which has been steady for several months, remained unchanged as work continued on national defense contracts.

Employment in the nonmanufacturing sector also declined in all categories except construction where a small pickup occurred. Wholesale and retail trade fell seasonally by 3,500 workers principally in eating and drinking places, food and dairy stores, and other retail establishments. In the services industries, seasonal gains in hotels, motels and recreation were offset by the usual summertime drop in the number of workers providing educational services.

Although total government employment decreased,the Federal government showed a significant gain of 1,100 jobs over the month, due to increased hiring in V.A. hospitals, in post offices for summer vacation replacements, and in various federally-sponsored summer job programs. Local government payrolls, on the other hand, fell by 7,700 jobs during July. The closing of school facilities for vacation, combined with unusually low summer hiring by cities and towns, accounted for the decline.

Over the past 12 months, several bright spots were observed despite the lingering effects of the nationwide recession. Major gains in employment have occurred since last July in the services, government, wholesale and retail trade, and transportation equipment industries. Declines were found primarily in five manufacturing sectors: fabricated metals, instruments, electrical equipment and supplies, paper, and rubber and plastic products.

ATTENTION TRENDS USERS

Beginning next month the Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment estimates will be based on new geographical definitions. A complete list of the new areas will be included in the August newsletter.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSIFICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		July 1975	June R/ 1975	July R/ 1974
Massachusetts		2,809,000	2,839,600	2,648,700
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas				
Boston	E	1,294,400	1,299,800	1,212,000
Brockton	F	101,300	102,900	92,200
Fall River	F	70,400	73,600	67,000
Lawrence-Haverhill	F	126,100	128,800	117,500
Lowell	D	108,000	111,800	97,700
New Bedford	F	75,700	77,800	71,900
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke	F	255,600	258,600	252,100
Worcester	F	165,500	171,800	157,200
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		14,700	15,250	14,100
Bourne-Wareham-Rochester		15,680	15,690	14,490
Clinton		10,360	10,260	10,600
Fitchburg-Leominster		52,000	52,400	47,900
Gardner		17,400	17,250	16,050
Gloucester		20,050	19,400	20,400
Great Barrington		13,220	11,550	12,910
Greenfield		27,850	28,050	26,800
Marlboro		45,450	47,250	44,700
Milford		23,600	24,550	22,850
Nantucket		4,200	3,710	4,120
Newburyport		27,050	27,100	25,650
North Adams		22,050	22,500	20,350
Pittsfield		39,950	40,600	38,450
Plymouth		18,140	18,080	16,680
Taunton		44,190	44,410	40,850
Tisbury		4,600	4,090	4,810
Ware		13,780	13,530	11,590
Webster-Southbridge		25,900	28,550	26,150

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT

ABOR AREAS

DS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
July 1975	June R/ 1975	July R/ 1974	July 1975	June R/ 1975	July R/ 1974	July 1975	June 1975	July 1974
2,419,500	2,445,400	2,448,800	389,500	394,200	199,900			
						13.9	13.9	7.5
						12.3	12.3	6.7
1,129,800	1,133,500	1,121,200	164,600	166,300	90,800	12.7	12.8	7.5
87,100	88,900	85,000	14,200	14,000	7,200	14.0	13.6	7.8
60,600	63,700	61,800	9,800	9,900	5,200	13.9	13.5	7.8
105,600	108,500	108,000	20,500	20,300	9,500	16.3	15.8	8.1
91,100	94,700	89,100	16,900	17,100	8,600	15.6	15.3	8.8
63,100	65,800	65,300	12,600	12,000	6,600	16.6	15.4	9.2
216,400	218,400	235,600	39,200	40,200	16,500	15.3	15.5	6.5
145,000	148,500	147,000	20,500	23,300	10,200	12.4	13.6	6.5
13,050	13,350	13,250	1,650	1,900	850	11.2	12.5	6.0
13,330	13,180	13,070	2,350	2,510	1,420	15.0	16.0	9.8
8,450	8,420	9,770	1,910	1,840	830	18.4	17.9	7.8
42,500	43,000	43,500	9,500	9,400	4,400	18.3	17.9	9.2
14,250	14,550	14,550	3,150	2,700	1,500	18.1	15.7	9.3
16,550	16,050	18,300	3,500	3,350	2,100	17.5	17.3	10.3
12,050	10,340	12,380	1,170	1,210	530	8.9	10.5	4.1
24,300	24,400	24,900	3,550	3,650	1,900	12.7	13.0	7.1
39,650	40,900	41,450	5,800	6,350	3,250	12.8	13.4	7.3
18,450	19,300	20,550	5,150	5,250	2,300	21.8	21.4	10.1
4,070	3,560	4,020	130	150	100	3.1	4.0	2.4
21,550	21,700	22,600	5,500	5,400	3,050	20.3	19.9	11.9
18,500	18,750	18,900	3,550	3,750	1,450	16.1	16.7	7.1
34,550	35,150	35,500	5,400	5,450	2,950	13.5	13.4	7.7
15,090	15,150	15,020	3,050	2,930	1,660	16.8	16.2	10.0
37,480	38,200	37,480	6,710	6,210	3,370	15.2	14.0	8.3
4,190	3,620	4,660	410	470	150	8.9	11.5	3.1
10,120	10,500	10,160	3,660	3,030	1,430	26.6	22.4	12.3
20,550	23,500	24,000	5,350	5,050	2,150	20.7	17.7	8.2

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
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Current month always preliminary
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(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment∅	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
July	2,648.7	2,448.8	199.9	7.5	5.6	6.7	5.3
August	2,642.3	2,463.2	179.1	6.8	5.3	6.8	5.4
September	2,649.0	2,475.7	173.3	6.5	5.7	7.4	5.8
October	2,656.5	2,480.9	175.6	6.6	5.5	7.8	6.0
November	2,668.9	2,472.4	196.5	7.4	6.2	8.1	6.6
December	2,676.6	2,456.9	219.7	8.2	6.7	8.7	7.2
1975							
January	2,668.1	2,392.0	276.1	10.3	9.0	9.9	8.2
February	2,697.9	2,377.4	320.5	11.9	9.1	11.0	8.2
March	2,735.1	2,394.0	341.1	12.5	9.1	11.8	8.7
April	2,746.7	2,411.5	335.2	12.2	8.6	12.3	8.9
May	2,781.0	2,430.8	350.2	12.6	8.3	12.8	9.2
June	2,839.6	2,445.4	394.2	13.9	9.1	12.3	8.6
July	2,809.0	2,419.5	389.5	13.9	8.7	12.3	8.4

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ∅-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

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Vol. 2 No. 8 Data for August 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

The State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose to 13.0 percent of the labor force during August. The rate was the highest for any month in 1975, exceeding the previous high of 12.8 percent in May 1975. Total employment in Massachusetts increased to 2,430,300 jobs during the month. The number of persons unemployed in the Commonwealth declined to a total of 362,600, the third highest figure this year.

Seasonal employment gains among the major industry divisions were concentrated in manufacturing, where payrolls rose by 15,000 jobs. Increases were widespread throughout the hard and soft goods producing industries. Within the hard goods sector, the largest gains took place in firms producing instruments and photographic and optical goods, where 1,900 additional workers were added. Fabricated metals plants, including producers of cutlery and hand tools, heating and plumbing supplies, and screw machine and metal stamping products, boosted their payrolls by 1,200. Gains also occurred in establishments making electrical equipment, especially those producing transmission equipment, industrial apparatus and electronic components. The soft goods producing sector registered normal August increases in employment in preparation for the Fall and Christmas seasons. Employment in leather and leather products rose by 3,100. The apparel industry added 1,900 workers, while jobs in textiles increased by 1,500.

The nonfactory division registered a small seasonal decline during the month. Only contract construction showed a sizeable gain over the month. The addition of 800 workers to depressed construction payrolls was a better than average performance for August. Payrolls in transportation, communications, and public utilities rose by 200 additional workers, despite a decline in demand for communications equipment and the continuance of a labor-management dispute involving over 1,000 workers. As a result of increases in employment in hotels, amusement and recreation, and in miscellaneous business services, the services industry (which normally shows a decline in August) posted a small gain. The largest decline in jobs in the nonmanufacturing sector took place in local government with the termination of summer jobs.

The nonmanufacturing division provided 17,200 more jobs than it had a year earlier while the manufacturing division lost 53,900 jobs.

This Issue Begins the Publication of Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment Estimates Based on the New Geographical Definitions of Labor Areas in Massachusetts

LABOR FORCE, EM
MASSACHUSETT
SEL

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		August 1975	July R/ 1975	August R/ - 1974
Massachusetts		2,792,900	2,809,900	2,652,200
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	E	1,294,000	1,301,600	1,208,700
Brockton SMSA	F	81,900	82,300	77,200
Fall River LMA	F	76,600	76,100	74,000
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	F	145,300	147,600	133,300
Lowell LMA	F	112,900	113,400	107,800
New Bedford LMA	F	83,600	84,300	79,900
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	F	280,700	283,700	271,400
Worcester LMA	F	198,200	199,500	190,100
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		13,492	13,650	11,567
Barnstable County		72,860	72,880	70,290
Clinton		10,174	10,260	10,636
Dukes County		5,220	5,150	5,580
Fitchburg-Leominster		52,012	50,800	50,155
Gardner		22,390	22,200	20,784
Gloucester		21,250	21,550	20,150
Great Barrington		10,340	10,430	10,470
Greenfield		28,300	28,500	28,350
Marlboro		39,550	39,950	39,600
Milford		16,850	17,100	17,700
Nantucket		4,350	4,240	4,270
Newburyport		17,750	18,050	17,350
Pittsfield		69,600	71,150	70,600
Plymouth		29,144	28,960	27,718
Southbridge		17,060	16,250	15,730
Taunton		31,470	31,800	31,350
Ware		7,170	7,350	6,610

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

Series Adjusted to 1974 CPS Benchmark and Revised Seasonal Factors.

THE CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT IN MASSACHUSETTS
(in thousands of persons)
Based on 1972 Benchmark

Period	Civilian Labor Force	Total Employment	Employment: Nonagricultural	Employment: Agricultural	Employment: All Other	Labor Dispute	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Civilian Labor Force): Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2455.0	2341.0	2268.3	13.5	163.1	4.8	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2451.0	2289.0	2245.0	15.6	162.9	2.4	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2483.0	2323.0	2284.2	14.4	160.4	1.2	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2570.0	2398.0	2340.0	14.7	158.0	1.6	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2637.0	2447.0	2369.5	14.1	156.7	3.2	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
January	2574.2	2390.4	2326.9	11.2	149.2	2.6	183.8	7.1	5.6	6.8	5.2
February	2585.2	2397.6	2331.3	10.9	151.7	0.5	187.6	7.3	5.7	6.8	5.2
March	2597.5	2410.8	2336.6	12.1	151.8	6.6	186.7	7.2	5.3	6.8	5.1
April	2620.6	2438.3	2361.6	13.5	154.2	3.7	182.3	7.0	4.8	7.0	5.0
May	2623.0	2446.2	2374.1	14.2	162.9	3.1	176.8	6.7	4.6	6.9	5.2
June	2693.7	2480.3	2393.7	14.9	162.7	4.0	213.4	7.9	5.8	7.0	5.2
July	2658.2	2448.2	2355.7	17.7	164.0	3.9	210.0	7.9	5.6	7.0	5.3
August	2652.2	2463.4	2373.1	18.9	161.0	4.8	188.8	7.1	5.3	7.1	5.4
September	2648.0	2476.1	2394.4	16.4	157.7	2.8	171.9	6.5	5.7	7.3	5.8
October	2649.4	2481.1	2399.7	15.7	158.9	2.2	168.3	6.4	5.5	7.5	6.0
November	2670.3	2473.5	2400.8	12.8	152.8	3.2	196.8	7.4	6.2	8.0	6.6
December	2671.4	2458.0	2385.1	11.2	153.8	2.5	213.4	8.0	6.7	8.5	7.2
1975											
January	2668.2	2393.1	2323.7	11.2	148.2	0.9	275.1	10.3	9.0	9.8	8.2
February	2698.0	2378.5	2309.9	10.9	146.2	0.9	319.5	11.9	9.1	11.1	8.2
March	2735.2	2395.1	2319.9	11.6	152.4	0.6	340.1	12.5	9.1	11.8	8.7
April	2746.8	2412.6	2335.5	13.1	152.5	1.7	334.2	12.2	8.6	12.3	8.9
May	2781.1	2431.9	2344.6	14.7	159.5	3.8	349.2	13.9	8.3	12.8	9.2
June	2839.7	2446.5	2357.8	16.7	160.6	3.3	393.2	13.9	9.1	12.3	8.6
July	2809.9	2421.3	2325.1	19.7	160.9	3.8	388.6	13.9	8.7	12.3	8.4
August	2792.9	2430.3	2338.4	19.9	158.8	4.3	362.6	13.0	8.2	13.0	8.4
September											
October											
November											
December											

* Not adjusted for seasonality # Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

EMPLOYMENT IN NONAGRICULTURAL ESTABLISHMENTS BY MAJOR INDUSTRY DIVISION
(in thousands of persons)
Based on 1972 Benchmark

Period	Nonagricultural Total	Manufacturing	Contract Construction	Transportation & Public Utilities	Wholesale & Retail Trade	Finance Insurance & Real Estate	Services & Miscellaneous	Government
1970	2268.3	648.3	100.2	117.3	495.0	129.8	457.7	320.0
1971	2245.0	600.2	102.5	117.0	500.4	130.2	464.1	330.6
1972	2284.2	599.6	106.1	121.5	510.3	132.0	477.5	337.1
1973	2340.0	618.7	108.8	122.7	522.2	134.3	490.6	342.7
1974	2369.5	617.5	106.5	123.3	529.2	136.1	508.8	348.1
January	2326.9	623.0	98.1	122.3	515.4	134.7	490.6	342.8
February	2331.3	623.4	96.0	121.8	512.4	135.0	494.8	347.9
March	2336.6	620.7	93.4	122.7	516.2	135.1	499.7	348.8
April	2361.6	620.3	104.0	123.8	526.3	135.2	505.3	346.7
May	2374.1	620.7	108.4	123.4	531.2	135.5	509.2	345.7
June	2393.7	628.1	112.0	124.8	535.8	136.6	509.7	346.7
July	2355.7	601.7	114.5	122.5	530.1	137.2	508.4	341.3
August	2373.1	621.6	115.0	123.3	527.7	137.3	508.3	339.9
September	2394.4	619.9	113.3	125.1	534.6	136.0	518.1	347.4
October	2399.7	618.0	112.4	124.4	532.7	136.7	522.1	353.6
November	2400.8	611.2	110.0	123.4	541.0	136.9	520.3	358.0
December	2385.1	601.6	100.7	121.6	547.4	136.8	519.1	357.9
1975								
January	2323.7	586.5	87.4	120.2	524.4	136.8	512.4	356.0
February	2309.9	576.4	83.8	119.3	517.4	136.4	516.2	360.4
March	2319.9	573.1	85.8	119.5	521.3	136.5	520.0	363.7
April	2335.5	569.7	93.0	118.4	527.6	136.6	525.6	364.7
May	2344.6	567.7	97.1	118.7	530.6	136.7	530.6	363.2
June	2357.8	572.9	100.2	118.9	537.9	137.6	529.0	361.3
July	2325.1	552.6	102.0	115.5	534.4	137.3	527.8	355.5
August	2338.4	567.7	102.8	115.7	533.8	137.1	527.9	353.4
September								
October								
November								
December								

Note: Current month's data always preliminary

DEFINITIONS OF MASSACHUSETTS LABOR AREAS WITH CITY CODES AND COUNT OF CITIES AND TOWNS IN AREAS

ATHOL:
Athol(001), Barre(002), Erving(189), New Salem(005), Orange (006), Petersham(007), Phillipston(008), Royalston(009), Warwick(012), Wendell(203). Total - 10.

BARNSTABLE COUNTY:
Barnstable(031), Bourne(032), Brewster(033), Chatham(034), Dennis(035), Eastham(036), Falmouth(037), Harwich(038), Mashpee(039), Orleans(040), Provincetown(042), Sandwich(043), Truro(044), Wellfleet(045), Yarmouth(046). Total - 15.

BOSTON:
Abington(112), Acton(472), Arlington(062), Ashland(262), Bedford(473), Bellingham(282), Belmont(063), Beverly(412), Boston(051), Boxborough(165), Boxford(212), Braintree(402), Brookline(052), Burlington(492), Cambridge(061), Canton(362), Carlisle(474), Chelsea(141), Cohasset(403), Concord(475), Danvers(413), Dedham(363), Dover(364), Duxbury(116), Everett (072), Foxborough(022), Framingham(265), Franklin(284), Hamilton(416), Hanover(120), Hanson(122), Hingham(404), Holbrook(123), Holliston(285), Hull(405), Kingston(124), Lexington(476), Lincoln(477), Lynn(251), Lynnfield(252), Malden(071), Manchester(417), Marblehead(418), Marshfield (125), Medfield(365), Medford(081), Medway(288), Melrose(073), Middleton(419), Millis(366), Milton(406), Nahant(253), Natick (268), Needham(092), Newton(091), Norfolk(367), North Reading(493), Norwell(407), Norwood(361), Peabody(420), Pembroke(127), Quincy(401), Randolph(130), Reading(494), Revere (142), Rockland(132), Salem(411), Saugus(254), Scituate(408), Sharon(368), Sherborn(270), Somerville(101), Stoneham(495), Stoughton(133), Sudbury(274), Swampscott(255), Topsfield(423), Wakefield(074), Walpole(369), Waltham(471), Watertown(093), Wayland(478), Wellesley(094), Wenham(424), Weston(479), Westwood(370), Weymouth(409), Wilmington(496), Winchester (497), Winthrop(143), Woburn(491), Wrentham(027). Total - 92.

BROCKTON:
Avon(113), Bridgewater(114), Brockton(111), East Bridgewater (117), Easton(118), Halifax(119), West Bridgewater(134), Whitman(135). Total - 8.

CLINTON:
Clinton(166), Lancaster(170). Total - 2.

DUKES COUNTY:
Chilmark(303), Edgartown(305), Gay Head(307), Gosnold(308), Oak Bluffs(314), Tisbury(316), West Tisbury(318). Total - 7.

FALL RIVER:
Dighton(463), Fall River(151), Somerset(153), Swansea(154), Westport(155); Little Compton & Tiverton, Rhode Island, Total - 5 in Massachusetts - 2 in R.I.

FITCHBURG-LEOMINSTER:
Fitchburg(161), Leominster(172), Lunenburg(173), Shirley(176), Townsend(178), Westminster(179). Total - 6.

GARDNER:
Ashby(163), Ashburnham(162), Gardner(167), Hubbardston(004), Princeton(175), Templeton(010), Winchendon(180). Total - 7.

GLOUCESTER:
Essex(414), Gloucester(415), Rockport(422). Total - 3.

GREAT BARRINGTON:
Alford(372), Egremont(376), Great Barrington(377), Monterey(384), Mt. Washington(385), New Marlborough(386), Sandisfield(390), Sheffield(392). Total - 8.

GREENFIELD:
Ashfield(182), Bernardston(183), Buckland(184), Charlemont (185), Colrain(186), Conway(187), Deerfield(188), Gill(190), Greenfield(181), Hawley(192), Heath(193), Leverett(194), Leyden(195), Monroe(335), Montague(196), Northfield(197), Rowe(198), Shelburne(199), Shutesbury(200), Sunderland(202), Whately(204). Total - 21.

LAWRENCE-HAVERHILL, MASS.-N.H.
Amesbury(322), Andover(232), Georgetown(213), Groveland (214), Haverhill(211), Lawrence(231), Merrimac(215), Methuen (233), North Andover(234), Salisbury(326), West Newbury(327); Atkinson, Hampstead, Kingston, Newton, Plaistow, Salem & Windham, New Hampshire, Total - 11 in Massachusetts - 7 in N.H.

LOWELL:
Billerica(242), Chelmsford(243), Dracut(244), Dunstable(245), Lowell(241), Tewksbury(247), Tyngsborough (248), Westford (249). Total - 8.

MARLBOROUGH:
Bolton(264), Hudson(266), Marlborough(261), Maynard(267), Southborough(272), Stow(273). Total - 6.

MILFORD:
Hopedale(286), Hopkinton(287), Mendon(289), Milford(281). Total - 4.

NANTUCKET:
Nantucket(313). Total - 1.

NEW BEDFORD:
Acushnet(302), Dartmouth(304), Fairhaven(306), Freetown(152), Lakeville(309), Marion(310), Mattapoisett(312), New Bedford (301), Rochester(315). Total - 9.

NEWBURYPORT:
Ipswich(323), Newbury(324), Newburyport(321), Rowley(325). Total - 4.

PITTSFIELD:
Adams(332), Becket(373), Cheshire(374), Clarksburg(333), Dalton(375), Florida(334), Hancock(378), Hinsdale(379), Lanesborough(380), Lee(382), Lenox(383), New Ashford(336), North Adams(331), Otis(387), Peru(388), Pittsfield(371), Richmond(389), Savoy(337), Stockbridge(393), Tyringham(394), Washington(395), West Stockbridge(396), Williamstown(338), Windsor(397). Total - 24.

PLYMOUTH:
Carver(115), Middleborough(126), Plymouth(128). Plympton(129), Wareham(317). Total - 5.

PROVIDENCE-PAWTUCKET, R.I. SMSA-MASSACHUSETTS PORTION:
Attleboro(021), Blackstone(283), Millville(290), North Attleborough(024), Norton(025), Plainville(026), Rehoboth(465), Seekonk(466). Total - 8.

SOUTHBRIDGE:
Dudley(484), Holland(439), Southbridge(486), Sturbridge(487). Total - 4.

SPRINGFIELD-CHICOPEE-HOLYOKE:
Agawam(432), Amherst(342), Belchertown(343), Brimfield(434), Chesterfield(345), Chicopee(435), Easthampton(347), East Longmeadow(436), Granby(349), Granville(437), Hadley(350), Hampden(438), Hatfield(352), Holyoke(221), Longmeadow(440), Ludlow(442), Monson(443), Montgomery(444), Northampton(341), Palmer(445), Pelham(355), Russell(446), South Hadley(223), Southampton(357), Southwick(447), Springfield(431), Wales (449), Warren(452), Westfield(453), Westhampton(358), West Springfield(454), Wilbraham(455), Williamsburg(359). Total - 33.

TAUNTON:
Berkley(462), Raynham(464), Taunton(461). Total - 3.

WARE:
Hardwick(003), New Braintree(510), Oakham(513), Ware(450), West Brookfield(520). Total - 5.

WORCESTER:
Auburn(502), Berlin(263), Boylston(503), Brookfield(504), Charlton(482), Douglas(483), East Brookfield(505), Grafton (506), Holden(507), Leicester(508), Millbury(509), Northborough(269), Northbridge(292), North Brookfield(512), Oxford (485), Paxton(514), Rutland(515), Shrewsbury(516), Spencer (517), Sterling(177), Sutton(488), Upton(293), Uxbridge(294), Webster(481), Westborough(518), West Boylston(519), Worcester (501). Total - 27.

BALANCE OF STATE - NO LABOR AREA:
Ayer(164), Blandford(433), Chester(344), Cummington(346), Goshen(348), Groton(168), Harvard(169), Huntington(353), Littleton(246), Mansfield(023), Middlefield(354), Pepperell (174), Plainfield(356), Tolland(448), Worthington(360). Total - 15.

TOTAL MASSACHUSETTS CITIES AND TOWNS - 351

r, UNEMPLOYMENT
LABOR AREAS
IODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
August 1975	July R/ 1975	August R/ 1974	August 1975	July R/ 1975	August R/ 1974	Aug. 1975	July 1975	Aug. 1974
2,430,300	2,421,300	2,463,400	363,600	388,600	188,800			
						13.0	13.8	7.1
						13.0	12.3	7.1
1,128,100	1,128,100	1,125,900	165,900	173,500	82,800	12.8	13.3	6.9
71,300	70,900	71,400	10,600	11,400	5,800	12.9	13.9	7.5
66,900	65,400	68,800	9,700	10,700	5,200	12.7	14.1	7.0
124,300	123,400	123,200	21,000	24,200	10,100	14.5	16.4	7.6
98,300	97,100	98,700	14,600	16,300	9,100	12.9	14.4	8.4
71,100	69,500	74,300	12,500	14,800	5,600	15.0	17.6	7.0
244,000	243,500	253,500	36,700	40,200	17,900	13.1	14.2	6.6
171,500	170,300	176,400	26,700	29,200	13,700	13.5	14.6	7.2
11,813	11,900	10,808	1,679	1,750	759	12.4	12.8	6.6
65,340	65,230	64,840	7,520	7,650	5,450	10.3	10.5	7.8
8,730	8,860	10,008	1,444	1,400	628	14.2	13.6	5.9
4,950	4,860	5,400	270	290	180	5.2	5.6	3.2
44,112	43,300	46,217	7,900	7,500	3,938	15.2	14.8	7.9
19,246	18,950	19,322	3,144	3,250	1,462	14.0	14.6	7.0
18,300	18,150	18,200	2,950	3,400	1,950	13.9	15.8	9.7
9,650	9,630	9,970	690	800	500	6.7	7.7	4.8
24,850	25,300	26,400	3,450	3,200	1,950	12.2	11.2	6.9
35,550	35,400	37,100	4,000	4,550	2,500	10.1	11.4	6.3
13,600	13,700	15,550	3,250	3,400	2,150	19.3	19.9	12.1
4,230	4,270	4,180	120	130	90	2 8	3.1	2.1
15,200	15,050	15,850	2,550	3,000	1,500	14.4	16.6	8.6
61,000	62,000	65,600	8,600	9,150	5,000	12.4	12.9	7.1
24,180	24,130	24,704	4,964	4,830	3,014	17.0	16.7	10.9
14,750	14,100	14,730	2,310	2,150	1,000	13.5	13.2	6.4
27,590	27,090	28,140	3,880	4,710	3,210	12.3	14.8	10.2
5,340	5,640	5,930	1,830	1,710	680	25.5	23.3	10.3

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

Series Adjusted to 1974 CPS Benchmark and Revised Seasonal Factors.

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment∅	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
August	2652.2	2463.4	188.8	7.1	5.3	7.1	5.4
September	2648.0	2476.1	171.9	6.5	5.7	7.3	5.8
October	2649.4	2481.1	168.3	6.4	5.5	7.5	6.0
November	2670.3	2473.5	196.8	7.4	6.2	8.0	6.6
December	2671.4	2458.0	213.4	8.0	6.7	8.5	7.2
1975							
January	2668.2	2393.1	275.1	10.3	9.0	9.8	8.2
February	2698.0	2378.5	319.5	11.9	9.1	11.1	8.2
March	2735.2	2395.1	340.1	12.5	9.1	11.8	8.7
April	2746.8	2412.6	334.2	12.2	8.6	12.3	8.9
May	2781.1	2431.9	349.2	13.9	8.3	12.8	9.2
June	2839.7	2446.5	393.2	13.9	9.1	12.3	8.6
July	2809.9	2421.3	388.6	13.9	8.7	12.3	8.4
August	2792.9	2430.3	362.6	13.0	8.2	13.0	8.4

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ∅-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

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Vol. 2 - No. 9 Data for September 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Employment in Massachusetts rose from 2,427,300 in August to 2,432,800 in September, while unemployment decreased from 362,900 to 346,900 during the same period. As a result, the rate of unemployment, unadjusted, dropped from 13.0 percent to 12.5 percent. However, the improvement was not enough to prevent the seasonally adjusted rate from rising from 13.0 to 14.0 percent over the month.

The comparable unemployment rate for the United States in September was 8.3 percent, dropping only slightly from 8.4 percent in August. National gains over the month were concentrated in both manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors, whereas the improvement in Massachusetts was largely in nonmanufacturing.

During September, the State's manufacturing industries reported few notable changes in employment. The largest net change in any manufacturing industry from August to September was the addition of 800 in the apparel industry.

The most significant change in the employment picture was registered in the nonmanufacturing sector, even though the increase of 11,500 jobs over the previous month was less than normal. Gains were recorded in wholesale and retail trade, local governments, services, and transportation and public utilities. These changes more than offset the employment losses in the depressed contract industry and the finance, insurance and real estate industry.

By July 1975, total claims (less partials) including regular and extended benefits reached a high of 319,422. In August, total claims dropped by 12.5 percent, and in September by another 13.0 percent, yet the rate of unemployment remained high due to the large number of persons who have exhausted all benefits but were still unemployed.

Unemployment rates for the eight major metropolitan areas in Massachusetts approximated the pattern experienced at the state level prior to adjustment for seasonal factors. The Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA had the highest unemployment rate at 13.9 percent, followed by New Bedford LMA at 13.7 percent. The lowest unemployment rate was recorded by the Fall River LMA at 11.8 percent.

Publication of Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment Estimates based on the New Geographical Definitions of Labor Areas in Massachusetts began on a continuing monthly basis in August 1975.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSIFICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		Sept. 1975	Aug. 1975	Sept. 1974
Massachusetts		2,779,700	2,790,200	2,648,000
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	F	1,289,300	1,294,700	1,212,700
Brockton SMSA	F	81,000	81,500	76,200
Fall River LMA	F	78,100	77,100	74,000
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	F	142,100	144,500	134,300
Lowell LMA	F	112,200	112,600	106,900
New Bedford LMA	F	82,700	83,000	80,100
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	F	281,700	278,500	271,700
Worcester LMA	F	199,200	197,700	189,900
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		11,500	11,550	11,050
Barnstable County		66,250	72,340	63,660
Clinton		10,040	10,150	10,900
Dukes County		5,130	5,530	5,140
Fitchburg-Leominster		51,100	51,260	53,500
Gardner		22,700	22,300	20,950
Gloucester		22,050	22,500	21,050
Great Barrington		9,970	9,810	9,750
Greenfield		28,600	29,000	27,550
Mariboro		38,600	38,050	37,800
Milford		19,950	20,050	20,950
Nantucket		3,700	4,310	3,630
Newburyport		17,450	17,700	16,800
Pittsfield		71,550	72,150	70,650
Plymouth		30,150	30,120	27,700
Southbridge		15,850	16,100	15,400
Taunton		31,600	31,100	29,650
Ware		7,230	7,280	6,300

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

T, UNEMPLOYMENT
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A new publication, Guide to Labor Market Information Products, has been compiled by the Research and Information Services. This publication is available upon request.

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
Sept. 1975	Aug. 1975 R/	R/ 1974	Sept. 1975	Aug. 1975 R/	Sept. R/ 1974	Sept. 1975	Aug. 1975	Sept. 1974
2,432,800	2,427,300	2,476,100	346,900	362,900	171,900			
						12.5	13.0	6.5
						14.0	13.0	7.3
1,127,300	1,128,300	1,132,600	162,000	166,400	80,100	12.6	12.9	6.6
71,100	70,700	71,200	9,900	10,800	5,000	12.2	13.3	6.6
68,900	67,100	69,300	9,200	10,000	4,700	11.8	13.0	6.4
122,300	123,400	124,700	19,800	21,100	9,600	13.9	14.6	7.1
98,100	97,800	98,100	14,100	14,800	8,800	12.6	13.1	8.2
71,400	70,500	74,300	11,300	12,500	5,800	13.7	15.1	7.2
247,100	241,600	255,900	34,600	36,900	15,800	12.3	13.2	5.8
174,000	171,300	178,900	25,200	26,400	11,000	12.7	13.4	5.8
9,900	9,850	10,300	1,600	1,700	750	13.9	14.7	6.8
58,610	64,760	58,920	7,640	7,580	4,740	11.5	10.5	7.4
8,890	8,780	10,330	1,150	1,370	570	11.5	13.5	5.2
4,860	5,240	5,000	270	290	140	5.3	5.2	2.7
44,000	43,720	49,800	7,100	7,540	3,700	13.9	14.7	6.9
19,300	19,100	19,700	3,400	3,200	1,250	15.0	14.3	6.0
19,300	19,450	19,200	2,750	3,050	1,850	12.5	13.6	8.8
9,450	9,220	9,390	520	590	360	5.2	6.0	3.7
25,350	25,500	26,050	3,250	3,500	1,500	11.4	12.1	5.4
34,950	34,150	36,000	3,650	3,900	1,800	9.5	10.2	4.8
17,100	16,800	19,400	2,850	3,250	1,550	14.3	16.2	7.4
3,580	4,190	3,550	120	120	80	3.2	2.8	2.2
15,100	15,050	15,500	2,350	2,650	1,300	13.5	15.0	7.7
63,600	63,600	66,750	7,950	8,550	3,900	11.1	11.9	5.5
25,090	24,900	25,200	5,060	5,220	2,500	16.8	17.3	9.0
14,000	13,950	14,600	1,850	2,150	800	11.7	13.4	5.2
27,950	27,250	27,850	3,650	3,850	1,800	11.6	12.4	6.1
5,620	5,590	5,760	1,610	1,690	540	22.3	23.2	8.6

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment∅	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
September	2,648.0	2,476.1	171.9	6.5	5.7	7.3	5.8
October	2,649.4	2,481.1	168.3	6.4	5.5	7.5	6.0
November	2,670.3	2,473.5	196.8	7.4	6.2	8.0	6.6
December	2,671.4	2,458.0	213.4	8.0	6.7	8.5	7.2
1975							
January	2,668.2	2,393.1	275.1	10.3	9.0	9.8	8.2
February	2,698.0	2,378.5	319.5	11.9	9.1	11.1	8.2
March	2,735.2	2,395.1	340.1	12.5	9.1	11.8	8.7
April	2,746.8	2,412.6	334.2	12.2	8.6	12.3	8.9
May	2,781.1	2,431.9	349.2	13.9	8.3	12.8	9.2
June	2,839.7	2,446.5	393.2	13.9	9.1	12.3	8.6
July	2,809.9	2,421.3	388.6	13.9	8.7	12.3	8.4
August	2,790.2	2,427.3	362.9	13.0	8.2	13.0	8.4
September	2,779.7	2,432.8	346.9	12.5	8.1	14.0	8.3

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ∅-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Vol. 2 - No. 10 Data for October 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Massachusetts rose from 14.1 to 14.4 percent from September to October. The national rate rose from 8.3 to 8.6 percent in the same month.

The Massachusetts unemployment rate continued to be inflated by the very large number of individuals drawn back into the labor force in 1975 by the Federal Supplemental Benefits (FSB) Program. Only those few states like Massachusetts with an uninterrupted high level of unemployment since 1970 have experienced this over-reaction to the FSB Program of the Federal formula mandated for state unemployment estimates.

The employment picture for the state is somewhat more optimistic than that for unemployment. Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased for the third consecutive month, with both the manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors reaching in October the highest level yet reached in 1975.

Manufacturing workforces rose 4,900 in October and have increased over 23,000 since the July low for the year. The nondurable goods sector reported an aggregate gain of 3,400 for the month, with all divisions up. The durable goods sector gained an aggregate 1,500 jobs, largely in fabricated metals and in electrical equipment and supply, the state's leading manufacturing industry.

Employment in nonmanufacturing industries scored a net rise of 8,200 in the month as seasonal gains in trade, services, and state and local governments offset cutbacks in construction and Federal government. Much of the gain in trade, government, and local transportation was related to the school and college openings.

Over the past twelve months, total payroll employment has dropped by 43,000, with 60 percent of this in the cyclically sensitive durable goods sector, 27 percent in nondurable goods, and 13 percent in nonmanufacturing where losses in construction and affiliated industries wiped out gains in trade, services, and government (where increases reflect Federally-financed CETA employees).

Unemployment in Massachusetts in the last year has doubled from 168,300 to 337,700. Since total employment has dropped only 42,400 in the year, much of the increase of 169,400 in the number of unemployed is due to the attraction of the powerful FSB program in drawing back 100,000 or more individuals who would not otherwise be in the labor force.

A new publication, Guide to Labor Market Information Products, has been compiled by the Research and Information Services. This publication is available upon request.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA CLASSIFICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		October 1975	September R/ 1975	October R/ 1974
Massachusetts		2,776,400	2,778,700	2,649,400
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	F	1,286,900	1,286,700	1,222,900
Brockton SMSA	F	81,400	81,100	76,200
Fall River LMA	F	78,000	78,000	73,500
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	F	143,400	142,400	134,300
Lowell LMA	F	114,100	113,300	107,800
New Bedford LMA	F	84,300	82,800	80,400
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	F	283,000	282,000	273,300
Worcester LMA	F	199,600	199,200	191,000
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		11,450	11,500	11,350
Barnstable County		61,200	66,180	57,260
Clinton		10,220	10,030	11,030
Dukes County		4,760	5,120	4,100
Fitchburg-Leominster		51,300	51,000	48,800
Gardner		21,950	22,700	20,750
Gloucester		21,400	21,800	20,950
Great Barrington		8,720	9,970	8,530
Greenfield		28,900	28,600	27,550
Marlboro		39,650	39,000	38,550
Milford		20,050	20,200	21,000
Nantucket		2,760	3,550	2,710
Newburyport		17,650	17,500	16,550
Pittsfield		71,400	71,450	70,300
Plymouth		30,310	30,530	28,300
Southbridge		15,700	15,900	15,400
Taunton		31,500	31,100	29,900
Ware		7,090	7,240	6,610

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

r, UNEMPLOYMENT
LABOR AREAS
IODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
October 1975	September R/ 1975	October R/ 1974	October 1975	September R/ 1975	October R/ 1974	Oct. 1975	Sept. 1975	Oct. 1974
2,438,700	2,430,500	2,481,100	337,700	348,200	168,300			
						12.2	12.5	6.4
						14.4	14.1	7.5
1,131,100	1,124,800	1,142,500	155,800	161,900	80,400	12.1	12.6	6.6
71,600	71,100	71,200	9,800	10,000	5,000	12.0	12.3	6.6
69,100	68,800	68,500	8,900	9,200	5,000	11.4	11.8	6.8
123,600	122,200	125,500	19,800	20,200	8,800	13.8	14.2	6.6
100,100	99,000	99,500	14,000	14,300	8,300	12.3	12.6	7.7
72,200	71,400	74,800	12,100	11,400	5,600	14.4	13.8	7.0
249,600	247,200	258,400	33,400	34,800	14,900	11.8	12.3	5.5
175,000	173,900	180,100	24,600	25,300	10,900	12.3	12.7	5.7
9,950	9,900	10,800	1,500	1,600	550	13.1	13.9	4.8
52,640	58,470	52,240	8,560	7,710	5,020	14.0	11.6	8.8
8,810	8,870	10,450	1,410	1,160	580	13.8	11.6	5.3
4,380	4,840	3,920	380	280	180	8.0	5.5	4.4
44,300	43,900	45,300	7,000	7,100	3,500	13.6	13.9	7.2
19,100	19,250	19,700	2,850	3,450	1,050	13.0	15.2	5.1
18,750	19,050	19,350	2,650	2,750	1,600	12.4	12.6	7.6
8,200	9,430	8,140	520	540	390	6.0	5.4	4.6
25,700	25,300	26,200	3,200	3,300	1,350	11.1	11.5	4.9
36,550	35,700	36,900	3,100	3,300	1,650	7.8	8.5	4.3
17,300	17,300	19,700	2,750	2,900	1,300	13.7	14.4	6.2
2,580	3,430	2,610	180	120	100	6.5	3.4	3.7
15,300	15,150	15,350	2,350	2,350	1,200	13.3	13.4	7.3
63,500	63,450	66,600	7,900	8,000	3,700	11.1	11.2	5.3
25,650	25,400	25,760	4,660	5,130	2,540	15.4	16.8	9.0
14,000	14,000	14,600	1,700	1,900	800	10.8	11.9	5.2
28,000	27,400	28,200	3,500	3,700	1,700	11.1	11.9	5.7
5,680	5,610	6,040	1,410	1,630	570	19.9	22.5	8.6

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentϕ	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
October	2,649.4	2,481.1	168.3	6.4	5.5	7.5	6.0
November	2,670.3	2,473.5	196.8	7.4	6.2	8.0	6.6
December	2,671.4	2,458.0	213.4	8.0	6.7	8.5	7.2
1975							
January	2,668.2	2,393.1	275.1	10.3	9.0	9.8	8.2
February	2,698.0	2,378.5	319.5	11.9	9.1	11.1	8.2
March	2,735.2	2,395.1	340.1	12.5	9.1	11.8	8.7
April	2,746.8	2,412.6	334.2	12.2	8.6	12.3	8.9
May	2,781.1	2,431.9	349.2	13.9	8.3	12.8	9.2
June	2,839.7	2,446.5	393.2	13.9	9.1	12.3	8.6
July	2,809.9	2,421.3	388.6	13.9	8.7	12.3	8.4
August	2,790.2	2,427.3	362.9	13.0	8.2	13.0	8.4
September	2,778.7	2,430.5	348.2	12.5	8.1	14.1	8.3
October	2,776.4	2,438.7	337.7	12.2	7.8	14.4	8.6

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ϕ-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Vol. 2 - No. 11 Data for November 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Developments in employment and unemployment from October to November indicate improvement in the Massachusetts economy. The number of persons on nonagricultural payrolls increased by 8,500, a better than average growth for the month. Nearly every manufacturing division added 100 to 400 workers for a net gain of 2,100 in marked contrast to the sharp decline of 4,200 a year earlier. The nonmanufacturing divisions also made an encouraging net expansion of 6,400 workers, again making a favorable comparison with the scant 2,200 increase in November 1974. Most of the month's gain was localized in wholesale and retail trade where preparations for the Christmas season carried employment to the highest November level on record.

A further indication that economic recovery has commenced is a decline in the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate from 13.1 percent of the labor force in October to 12.2 percent in November. (The seasonal adjustment factors used through October 1975 were over-reacting to the high level of unemployment in the past year and have been replaced; the old factors would show a drop from 14.4 percent in October to 12.8 percent in November.) Estimates computed using the replacement factors indicate that unemployment in Massachusetts peaked earlier than October, reaching 13.3 percent in June and July and then declining through the late summer and early fall to 12.2 percent in November. The corresponding national unemployment rate peaked at 9.2 percent in May and declined to 8.3 percent by November.

All 1975 estimates of unemployment in Massachusetts are preliminary computations using the mandatory Federal methodology of the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The final 1975 estimates for Massachusetts and other large states will be computed early in 1976 by the BLS from data on households included in the national monthly household survey.

The final BLS estimates will be less subject to inflation from the atypically large number of individuals who reentered the state labor force to claim benefits under the Federal Supplemental Benefit Program (FSB). Massachusetts was taking up to 16 percent of the FSB claims in the United States in May 1975 although it accounted for only 3 percent of the covered employment. Some of the increase in the Massachusetts unemployment rate in the last year from 8.0 to 12.2 percent is due to a 32,800 net drop in employment opportunities. Some is due to FSB claimants who had lost their jobs two to five years ago.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		November 1975	October 1975 R/	November 1974 R/
Massachusetts		2,765,900	2,768,300	2,670,300
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	F	1,288,900	1,288,200	1,231,100
Brockton SMSA	F	81,300	80,900	76,400
Fall River LMA	F	77,800	77,600	74,600
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	F	142,300	142,600	135,400
Lowell LMA	F	113,100	113,200	110,300
New Bedford LMA	F	83,400	83,900	81,600
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	F	281,600	281,500	276,100
Worcester LMA	F	198,000	198,400	192,400
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		11,450	11,400	11,500
Barnstable County		58,670	60,880	56,000
Clinton		10,050	10,160	10,880
Dukes County		3,960	4,170	3,890
Fitchburg-Leominster		50,800	51,000	49,100
Gardner		21,900	21,850	20,650
Gloucester		21,100	21,250	20,800
Great Barrington		8,560	8,670	8,560
Greenfield		28,650	28,750	27,650
Marlboro		39,990	39,450	38,940
Milford		19,800	19,950	20,850
Nantucket		2,530	2,740	2,470
Newburyport		17,475	17,575	16,800
Pittsfield		70,750	71,000	70,600
Plymouth		30,110	30,160	28,400
Southbridge		15,730	15,640	15,370
Taunton		31,000	31,300	32,400
Ware		7,120	7,060	6,680

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

r, UNEMPLOYMENT
LABOR AREAS
IODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
November 1975	October R/ 1975	November R/ 1974	November 1975	October R/ 1975	November R/ 1974	Nov. 1975	Oct. 1975	Nov. 1974
2,440,700	2,430,500	2,473,500	325,200	337,800	196,800			
						11.8	12.2	7.4
						12.2	13.1	8.0
1,142,100	1,132,600	1,144,800	146,800	155,600	86,300	11.4	12.1	7.0
71,500	71,100	70,400	9,800	9,800	6,000	12.1	12.1	7.9
68,800	68,700	68,500	9,000	8,700	6,100	11.6	11.5	8.2
122,900	122,700	124,900	19,400	19,900	10,500	13.6	14.0	7.8
99,900	99,200	99,000	13,200	14,000	11,300	11.7	12.4	10.2
71,600	71,700	73,700	11,800	12,200	7,900	14.1	14.5	9.7
249,800	248,000	257,500	31,800	33,500	18,600	11.3	11.9	6.7
174,500	173,800	179,800	23,500	24,600	12,600	11.9	12.4	6.5
9,950	9,900	10,800	1,500	1,500	700	13.1	13.2	6.1
49,620	52,300	49,050	9,050	8,580	6,950	15.4	14.1	12.4
8,720	8,750	10,340	1,330	1,410	540	13.2	13.9	5.0
3,460	3,790	3,530	500	380	360	12.6	9.1	9.3
44,000	44,000	44,500	6,800	7,000	4,600	13.4	13.7	9.4
19,050	19,000	19,350	2,850	2,850	1,300	13.0	13.0	6.3
18,400	18,600	18,850	2,700	2,650	1,950	12.8	12.5	9.4
7,990	8,150	8,040	570	520	520	6.7	6.0	6.1
25,500	25,550	25,950	3,150	3,200	1,700	11.0	11.1	6.1
36,740	36,330	36,970	3,250	3,120	1,970	8.1	7.9	5.1
17,150	17,200	19,300	2,650	2,750	1,550	13.4	13.8	7.4
2,320	2,560	2,310	210	180	160	8.3	6.6	6.5
15,225	15,200	15,375	2,250	2,375	1,425	12.9	13.5	8.5
62,850	63,100	66,000	7,900	7,900	4,600	11.2	11.1	6.5
25,260	25,480	25,390	4,850	4,680	3,010	16.1	15.5	10.6
14,030	13,930	14,390	1,700	1,710	980	10.8	10.9	6.4
27,600	27,800	30,400	3,400	3,500	2,000	11.0	11.2	6.2
5,750	5,640	5,970	1,370	1,420	710	19.2	20.1	10.6

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

THE ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATES FOR 1975 HAVE BEEN REVISED USING THE ADDITIVE OPTION OF THE CENSUS BUREAU'S X-11 METHODOLOGY FOR SEASONALLY-ADJUSTING ECONOMIC TIME SERIES.

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentø	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
November	2,670.3	2,473.5	196.8	7.4	6.2	8.0	6.6
December	2,671.4	2,458.0	213.4	8.0	6.7	8.5	7.2
1975							
January	2,674.2	2,398.7	275.5	10.3	9.0	10.0	8.2
February	2,698.3	2,378.6	319.7	11.8	9.1	11.4	8.2
March	2,717.1	2,376.6	340.5	12.5	9.1	12.1	8.7
April	2,726.7	2,391.4	335.3	12.3	8.6	12.2	8.9
May	2,760.2	2,410.4	349.8	12.7	8.3	12.9	9.2
June	2,821.7	2,428.2	393.5	14.0	9.1	13.3	8.6
July	2,809.0	2,418.5	390.5	13.9	8.7	13.3	8.4
August	2,791.1	2,426.3	364.8	13.1	8.2	13.1	8.4
September	2,774.6	2,426.3	348.3	12.6	8.1	13.2	8.3
October	2,768.3	2,430.5	337.8	12.2	7.8	13.1	8.6
November	2,765.9	2,440.7	325.2	11.8	7.8	12.2	8.3

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vol. 2 - No. 12

Data for December 1975

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

The Massachusetts unemployment rate continued its downward trend during December. The State's seasonally adjusted rate was estimated at 11.8 percent of the work force, down from November's 12.2 percent.

The preliminary December estimate of 314,200 persons unemployed was the lowest for any month since last January.

All of the major labor areas registered declines in their unemployment rates, following the pattern at the state level. The biggest percentage of declines occurred in Boston where the unadjusted rate fell from 11.4 to 11.0 percent; Brockton, which dropped from 12.2 to 11.4 percent; and New Bedford, the metropolitan area that continues to have the highest rate, down from 14.3 to 13.7 percent.

Total employment registered a slight decline for the month, down from 2,443,600 to 2,434,200, a drop of 9,400. Jobs in retail trade establishments posted a lower than normal gain of 8,400 jobs while the State's contract construction payrolls dropped by 5,700. Employment in the State's manufacturing sector remained relatively stable.

Spurred by both employment increases and withdrawals from the labor force during the latter half of 1975, the number of unemployed has declined every month since June of this year when a record 393,500 individuals were estimated to be unemployed.

At the year's end, manufacturing employment had recovered significantly from the low levels reached earlier in the year. Although total manufacturing finished the year 21,100 jobs below December 1974 payrolls, two large durable goods industries survived the recession fairly well. Nonelectrical machinery, with a backlog of orders, was able to end the year only 5,300 jobs below the previous December's levels, while payrolls in the electrical equipment and supplies sector experienced a decline of only 3,500 jobs below last year's total.

Employment in the nondurables sector has almost returned to 1974 levels. Jobs in textiles and apparel, buoyed up by consumer spending, actually increased during 1975.

Developments in the nonmanufacturing industries were mixed. December payrolls in wholesale and retail trade establishments reached an all-time high of 552,200 workers. Contract construction remained depressed, finishing the year 17,200 jobs below December 1974.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		December 1975	November R/ 1975	December R/ 1974
Massachusetts		2,748,400	2,769,000	2,671,400
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	F	1,283,400	1,288,400	1,238,700
Brockton SMSA	F	80,800	81,400	77,100
Fall River LMA	F	76,600	77,900	73,000
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	F	141,100	142,200	136,000
Lowell LMA	F	113,000	113,200	109,000
New Bedford LMA	F	83,000	83,500	81,500
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	F	278,500	281,900	275,500
Worcester LMA	F	196,500	201,300	193,400
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		11,300	11,450	11,550
Barnstable County		57,550	58,730	54,710
Clinton		10,230	10,060	10,410
Dukes County		3,860	3,940	3,790
Fitchburg-Leominster		50,300	50,900	49,600
Gardner		21,750	21,900	20,250
Gloucester		20,950	21,100	20,800
Great Barrington		8,430	8,570	8,590
Greenfield		28,350	28,700	27,500
Marlboro		41,050	40,010	39,310
Milford		19,450	20,000	20,800
Nantucket		2,390	2,530	2,470
Newburyport		17,280	17,490	16,380
Pittsfield		71,800	70,800	70,550
Plymouth		28,320	29,050	28,510
Southbridge		15,830	15,740	15,350
Taunton		30,550	31,000	30,100
Ware		6,960	7,130	6,010

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT
LABOR AREAS
ODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
December 1975	November R/ 1975	December R/ 1974	Dec. 1975	Nov. R/ 1975	Dec. R/ 1974	Dec. 1975	Nov. 1975	Dec. 1974
2,434,200	2,443,600	2,458,000	314,200	325,400	213,400			
						11.4	11.8	8.0
						11.8	12.2	8.5
1,142,600	1,141,600	1,144,500	140,800	146,800	94,200	11.0	11.4	7.6
71,600	71,500	70,800	9,200	9,900	6,300	11.4	12.2	8.2
67,700	68,800	65,600	8,900	9,100	7,400	11.6	11.7	10.1
122,300	123,100	124,700	18,800	19,100	11,300	13.3	13.4	8.3
100,000	99,900	98,700	13,000	13,300	10,300	11.5	11.7	9.4
71,600	71,600	72,600	11,400	11,900	8,900	13.7	14.3	10.9
247,700	249,900	255,900	30,800	32,000	19,600	11.1	11.4	7.1
173,700	177,500	179,500	22,800	23,800	13,900	11.6	11.8	7.2
9,850	9,950	10,650	1,450	1,500	900	12.8	13.1	7.8
47,930	49,620	46,960	9,620	9,110	7,750	16.7	15.5	14.2
8,880	8,720	9,890	1,350	1,340	520	13.2	13.3	5.0
3,290	3,460	3,400	570	480	390	14.8	12.2	10.3
43,700	44,000	44,400	6,600	6,900	5,200	13.1	13.6	10.5
18,950	19,050	18,550	2,800	2,850	1,700	12.9	13.0	8.4
18,150	18,400	18,800	2,800	2,700	2,000	13.4	12.8	9.6
7,880	7,990	8,030	550	580	560	6.5	6.8	6.5
25,150	25,500	25,650	3,200	3,200	1,850	11.3	11.1	6.7
37,940	36,740	37,150	3,110	3,270	2,160	7.6	8.2	5.5
16,900	17,300	19,100	2,550	2,700	1,700	13.1	13.5	8.2
2,210	2,320	2,250	180	210	220	7.5	8.3	8.9
15,070	15,230	14,910	2,210	2,260	1,470	12.8	12.9	9.0
63,900	62,850	65,450	7,900	7,950	5,100	11.0	11.2	7.2
24,710	25,260	25,200	3,610	3,790	3,310	12.7	13.0	11.6
14,140	14,030	14,290	1,690	1,710	1,060	10.7	10.9	6.9
27,150	27,600	27,800	3,400	3,400	2,300	11.1	11.0	7.6
5,690	5,750	5,240	1,270	1,380	770	18.2	19.4	12.8

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentø	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1970	2,455.0	2,341.0	114.0	4.6	4.9	4.6	4.9
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
December	2,671.4	2,458.0	213.4	8.0	6.7	8.5	7.2
1975							
January	2,674.2	2,398.7	275.5	10.3	9.0	10.0	8.2
February	2,698.3	2,378.6	319.7	11.8	9.1	11.4	8.2
March	2,717.1	2,376.6	340.5	12.5	9.1	12.1	8.7
April	2,726.7	2,391.4	335.3	12.3	8.6	12.2	8.9
May	2,760.2	2,410.4	349.8	12.7	8.3	12.9	9.2
June	2,821.7	2,428.2	393.5	14.0	9.1	13.3	8.6
July	2,809.0	2,418.5	390.5	13.9	8.7	13.3	8.4
August	2,790.9	2,426.1	364.8	13.1	8.2	13.1	8.4
September	2,775.4	2,427.0	348.8	12.6	8.1	13.2	8.3
October	2,770.9	2,432.9	338.0	12.2	7.8	13.1	8.6
November	2,769.0	2,443.6	325.4	11.8	7.8	12.2	8.3
December	2,748.4	2,434.2	314.2	11.4	7.8	11.8	8.3

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vol. 3 - No. 1 Data for January 1976

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

The unemployment situation in Massachusetts remained relatively stable during January 1976. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased insignificantly from 11.8 to 11.9 percent of the labor force. The comparable rate for the Nation during January was 7.8 percent.

The seasonal December-to-January decrease in employment was less than expected, with 335,900 Massachusetts residents remaining unemployed. Post-holiday layoffs in wholesale and retail trade establishments and winter shutdowns of educational institutions dominated nonagricultural activities where payrolls fell by 38,900 to a January total of 2,317,800 jobs. In the same month one year ago, employment fell by 58,400, indicating that the recession was well under way in Massachusetts.

Over the year, despite a worsening of conditions in contract construction, the State's economy continued to generate new jobs in the nonmanufacturing industries. Wholesale and retail trade jobs grew by almost 12,000. Employment in the services industries, up by 6,600 over January 1975, reached the highest total for any January on record.

Employment levels in the State's manufacturing industries remained relatively stable, indicating continued recovery from the low levels reached in mid-1975.

Employment in nondurables, especially in textiles, apparel and leather, was up over the year, contrary to the slow secular decline that has characterized this subdivision. Two of the State's largest durable goods industries showed strength in the midst of the overall downturn in 1975: electronic components and accessories posted a gain of 1,900 jobs over the year, while employment in nonelectrical machinery increased in January for the fifth month in a row.

Unemployment in the State's major labor areas followed the pattern at the State level, prior to seasonal adjustments. The New Bedford area reached an unemployment rate of 15.8 percent, while the Boston area appeared the best of the metropolitan areas with a rate of 11.5 percent.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		January 1976	December R/ 1975	January R/ 1975
Massachusetts		2,731,900	2,747,400	2,674,200
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	F	1,262,600	1,283,500	1,225,000
Brockton SMSA	F	79,800	79,600	77,900
Fall River LMA	F	75,900	75,400	74,000
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	F	141,400	141,600	140,900
Lowell LMA	F	116,300	113,500	111,100
New Bedford LMA	F	85,500	83,400	83,900
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	F	278,100	279,900	276,700
Worcester LMA	F	197,700	197,300	196,900
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		11,450	11,350	11,500
Barnstable County		57,240	57,820	53,660
Clinton		10,330	10,280	10,560
Dukes County		3,990	3,880	3,960
Fitchburg-Leominster		51,300	50,300	50,300
Gardner		22,100	21,750	21,700
Gloucester		20,500	21,050	20,250
Great Barrington		8,570	8,470	8,890
Greenfield		28,400	28,450	28,550
Marlboro		42,650	41,250	39,410
Milford		19,100	19,550	21,400
Nantucket		2,160	2,400	2,320
Newburyport		17,400	17,350	16,950
Pittsfield		71,950	72,100	71,550
Plymouth		27,380	28,460	28,880
Southbridge		16,650	15,910	15,300
Taunton		30,550	30,650	29,600
Ware		7,400	6,990	7,040

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

T, UNEMPLOYMENT
LABOR AREAS
IODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
January 1976	December[R] 1975	January[R] 1975	January 1976	December[R] 1975	January[R] 1975	Jan. 1976	Dec. 1975	Jan. 1975
2,396,000	2,433,200	2,398,700	335,900	314,200	275,500			
						12.3	11.4	10.3
						11.9	11.8	10.0
1,117,500	1,142,700	1,109,400	145,100	140,800	115,600	11.5	11.0	9.4
69,800	70,400	70,000	10,000	9,200	7,900	12.5	11.6	10.1
66,400	66,600	64,100	9,500	8,800	9,900	12.5	11.7	13.4
120,800	122,800	125,300	20,600	18,800	15,600	14.6	13.3	11.1
101,000	100,500	98,400	15,300	13,000	12,700	13.2	11.5	11.4
72,000	72,000	71,400	13,500	11,400	12,500	15.8	13.7	14.9
244,200	249,000	249,000	33,900	30,900	27,700	12.2	11.0	10.0
174,600	174,500	178,100	23,100	22,800	18,800	11.7	11.6	9.5
9,900	9,900	10,300	1,550	1,450	1,200	13.5	12.8	10.4
46,700	48,180	45,690	10,540	9,640	7,970	18.4	16.7	14.9
9,090	8,930	9,310	1,240	1,350	1,250	12.0	13.1	11.8
3,360	3,310	3,400	630	570	560	15.8	14.7	14.1
44,400	43,700	43,800	6,900	6,600	6,500	13.5	13.1	12.9
19,200	18,950	19,100	2,900	2,800	2,600	13.1	12.9	12.0
17,200	18,250	17,500	3,300	2,800	2,750	16.1	13.3	13.6
7,940	7,920	8,200	630	550	690	7.4	6.5	7.8
24,900	25,250	26,200	3,500	3,200	2,350	12.3	11.2	8.2
39,210	38,140	36,320	3,440	3,110	3,090	8.1	7.5	7.8
16,300	17,000	18,950	2,800	2,550	2,450	14.7	13.0	11.4
1,960	2,220	2,060	200	180	260	9.3	7.5	11.2
14,950	15,150	14,850	2,450	2,200	2,100	14.1	12.7	12.4
63,100	64,200	64,950	8,850	7,900	6,600	12.3	11.0	9.2
22,890	24,840	24,550	4,490	3,620	4,330	16.4	12.7	15.0
14,880	14,210	13,740	1,770	1,700	1,560	10.6	10.7	10.2
26,700	27,300	26,350	3,850	3,350	3,250	12.6	10.9	11.0
5,940	5,720	5,770	1,460	1,270	1,270	19.7	18.2	18.0

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment ϕ	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,570.0	2,398.0	172.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,637.0	2,447.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
1975 P/	2,755.1	2,413.8	341.3	12.4	8.5	12.4	8.5
January	2,674.2	2,398.7	275.5	10.3	9.0	10.0	8.2
February	2,698.3	2,378.6	319.7	11.8	9.1	11.4	8.2
March	2,717.1	2,376.6	340.5	12.5	9.1	12.1	8.7
April	2,726.7	2,391.4	335.3	12.3	8.6	12.2	8.9
May	2,760.2	2,410.4	349.8	12.7	8.3	12.9	9.2
June	2,821.7	2,428.2	393.5	14.0	9.1	13.3	8.6
July	2,809.0	2,418.5	390.5	13.9	8.7	13.3	8.4
August	2,790.9	2,426.1	364.8	13.1	8.2	13.1	8.4
September	2,775.4	2,427.0	348.8	12.6	8.1	13.2	8.3
October	2,770.9	2,432.9	338.0	12.2	7.8	13.1	8.6
November	2,769.0	2,443.6	325.4	11.8	7.8	12.2	8.3
December	2,747.4	2,433.2	314.2	11.4	7.8	11.8	8.3
1976							
January	2,731.9	2,396.0	335.9	12.3	9.0	11.9	7.8

* - Not adjusted for seasonality ϕ-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality
P/- Figures for the 1975 Annual Averages are Preliminary

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vo. 3 - No. 2

Data for February 1976

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Withdrawals from the labor force and a drop in persons filing for regular unemployment benefits resulted in a decline from January's revised unemployment estimate of 10.0 percent to February's preliminary seasonally adjusted estimate of 9.4 percent of the labor force. The January preliminary estimate, which had been reported at 11.9 percent of the labor force, was revised downward to take into account significantly lower final labor force and unemployment estimates for December 1975 which have just been received from the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Based on Massachusetts data collected by the U. S. Census Bureau in its monthly sample of households, the Bureau of Labor Statistics annual series revealed less unemployment in the State during 1975 than preliminary 1975 estimates indicated. The final 1975 annual average unemployment rate for the State was estimated at 11.2 percent of the labor force, compared with the previously-published estimate of 12.4 percent. The large number of Massachusetts residents collecting extended unemployment benefits in the past year was responsible in large part for the higher preliminary 1975 estimates which had been prepared by D. E. S. using methodology mandated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Based on the final 1975 estimates, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for February for the State showed an improvement in line with the Nation as a whole. The unemployment rate for the country dropped from 7.8 to 7.6 percent from January to February. Although 286,600 Massachusetts residents remained unemployed in mid-February, the total was almost 9,000 below the level recorded one year ago when the number of jobless persons in the State was climbing toward a June high of 343,400. This level was exceeded previously only in the great Depression of the 1930's.

Nonagricultural payrolls remained steady over the month. Seasonal employment gains in educational institutions were offset by lay-offs in wholesale and retail trade establishments and in the construction industry. Declines in trade establishments were less than expected, however, as consumer spending remained strong.

Total payrolls in the State were up by 5,800 over the same period one year ago. Increases in textiles, apparel and leather goods were slightly overshadowed by over-the-year losses in jobs in the durables industries. However, during 1975, wholesale and retail trade establishments added significantly to their work forces. Construction, meanwhile, dropped by 11,000 from February 1975 levels, reaching a fifteen-year low.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		February 1976	January 1976 R/	February 1975 R/
Massachusetts		2,698,[illegible]00	2,716,800	2,681,600
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	E	1,316,700	1,326,500	1,313,600
Brockton SMSA	F	75,100	75,300	73,100
Fall River LMA	F	71,400	72,400	69,900
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	F	133,500	133,800	134,300
Lowell LMA	E	108,300	109,600	104,500
New Bedford LMA	F	79,000	80,400	77,600
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	E	262,900	263,100	263,600
Worcester LMA	F	185,200	186,700	186,100
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		10,800	10,850	10,900
Barnstable County		52,950	53,950	50,200
Clinton		9,820	9,770	9,890
Dukes County		3,690	3,760	3,600
Fitchburg-Leominster		48,100	47,900	47,400
Gardner		20,700	20,800	20,200
Gloucester		20,600	20,900	20,700
Great Barrington		8,130	8,140	8,300
Greenfield		27,050	26,850	25,650
Mariboro		40,540	40,500	37,080
Milford		17,950	18,300	19,900
Nantucket		2,150	2,050	2,090
Newburyport		16,300	16,400	18,500
Pittsfield		69,400	70,150	67,800
Plymouth		26,770	26,150	27,330
Southbridge		15,510	15,780	14,140
Taunton		28,750	29,000	27,900
Ware		7,030	6,970	6,520

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT
LABOR AREAS
FODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
February 1976	January[R] 1976	February[R] 1975	February 1976	January[R] 1976	February[R] 1975	Feb. 1976	Jan. 1976	Feb. 1975
2,412,200	2,413,600	2,386,200	286,600	303,200	295,400			
						10.6	11.2	11.0
						9.4	10.0	10.2
1,185,300	1,190,200	1,178,200	131,400	136,300	135,400	10.0	10.3	10.3
66,700	66,600	64,900	8,400	8,700	8,200	11.2	11.6	11.2
63,700	63,900	60,500	7,700	8,500	9,400	10.8	11.7	13.4
116,300	115,500	118,200	17,200	18,300	16,100	12.9	13.7	12.0
96,400	96,200	92,800	11,900	13,400	11,700	11.0	12.2	11.2
68,300	68,600	66,000	10,700	11,800	11,600	13.5	14.7	14.9
236,000	233,400	235,100	26,900	29,700	28,500	10.2	11.3	10.8
166,300	166,400	167,100	18,900	20,300	19,000	10.2	10.9	10.2
9,500	9,500	9,750	1,300	1,350	1,150	12.0	12.4	10.6
43,950	44,650	42,400	9,000	9,300	7,800	17.0	17.2	15.5
8,690	8,690	8,540	1,130	1,080	1,350	11.5	11.1	13.7
3,290	3,200	3,090	400	560	510	10.8	14.9	14.2
42,200	41,900	40,700	5,900	6,000	6,700	12.3	12.5	14.1
18,250	18,250	17,700	2,450	2,550	2,500	11.8	12.3	12.4
17,900	18,000	18,100	2,700	2,900	2,600	13.1	13.9	12.6
7,570	7,590	7,630	560	550	670	6.9	6.8	8.1
24,050	23,800	22,750	3,000	3,050	2,900	11.1	11.4	11.3
37,590	37,480	34,200	2,950	3,020	2,880	7.3	7.5	7.8
15,650	15,850	17,250	2,300	2,450	2,650	12.8	13.4	13.3
1,950	1,870	1,870	200	180	220	9.3	8.8	10.5
14,200	14,250	16,450	2,100	2,150	2,050	12.9	13.1	11.1
62,250	62,400	60,650	7,150	7,750	7,150	10.3	11.0	10.5
22,860	22,230	23,010	3,910	3,920	4,320	14.6	15.0	15.8
14,030	14,220	12,430	1,480	1,560	1,710	9.5	9.9	12.1
25,550	25,600	24,500	3,200	3,400	3,400	11.1	11.7	12.2
5,880	5,680	5,260	1,150	1,290	1,260	16.4	18.5	19.3

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

*Area Classification

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment$^{\phi}$	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass.#	U.S.#
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
1975	2,735.0	2,430.0	305.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.5
January	2,664.0	2,401.3	262.7	9.9	9.0	9.2	8.2
February	2,681.6	2,386.2	295.4	11.0	9.1	10.2	8.2
March	2,697.2	2,389.2	308.0	11.4	9.1	10.6	8.7
April	2,707.9	2,407.8	300.1	11.1	8.6	10.9	8.9
May	2,738.8	2,430.7	308.1	11.3	8.3	11.5	9.2
June	2,792.0	2,448.6	343.4	12.3	9.1	12.0	8.6
July	2,779.8	2,438.8	341.0	12.3	8.7	11.8	8.4
August	2,766.7	2,446.4	320.3	11.6	8.2	11.9	8.4
September	2,754.4	2,447.3	307.1	11.1	8.1	11.9	8.3
October	2,751.8	2,451.9	299.9	10.9	7.8	11.8	8.6
November	2,752.2	2,461.3	290.9	10.6	7.8	11.4	8.3
December	2,733.7	2,450.5	283.2	10.4	7.8	10.8	8.3
1976							
January	2,716.8	2,413.6	303.2	11.2	8.8	10.0	7.8
February	2,698.8	2,412.2	286.6	10.6	8.7	9.4	7.6

* - Not adjusted for seasonality ϕ-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

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Vol. 3 - No. 3 Data for March 1976

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate for Massachusetts declined for the sixth month in a row in March. The gap between the rate for the State and for the Nation as a whole appeared to be narrowing as the State's rate was estimated at 8.8 percent of the labor force, while the rate for the country stood at 7.5 percent for the same period.

Although a drop in the number of persons seeking work accounted for some of the improvement in the rate, a healthy gain in new jobs suggests that the State is taking an active part in the national economic recovery.

Total nonagricultural payrolls jumped by 13,200 jobs over the month, due to gains in both the manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors. Encouraged by increased consumer spending and capital expenditures for business equipment and machinery, employers added workers in every major hardgoods industry. This development mirrored activity at the national level, where expansion centered mainly in the transportation equipment and electrical equipment industries.

Over-the-month seasonal employment gains in the State were reported in construction, apparel, textiles, wholesale and retail trade and in facilities providing educational and recreational services.

The number of Massachusetts residents unemployed during the survey week in March was estimated at 264,400 individuals. Down by 22,200 from the February total, the March estimate was the lowest for the State in fourteen months. All of the unemployment compensation programs operated by the Division registered over-the-month declines in the number of persons claiming benefits.

Nonagricultural employment increased by 31,200 jobs over-the-year. Despite the loss of over 10,000 construction jobs during the past twelve months, nonmanufacturing employment accounted for over two-thirds of the improvement, as payrolls in services, wholesale and retail trade and state and local government continued their long-range upward trends. Over-the-year gains in manufacturing employment were centered in softgoods establishments, mainly in plants producing apparel, textiles and leather goods.

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LABOR FORCE, E
MASSACHUSET
SEL

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		March 1976	February 1976 R/	March 1975 R/
Massachusetts		2,693,800	2,699,000	2,697,100
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	E	1,314,100	1,316,700	1,259,600
Brockton SMSA	F	76,000	76,100	73,500
Fall River LMA	F	71,700	71,900	70,500
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	F	132,800	134,400	136,100
Lowell LMA	E	103,800	103,700	100,300
New Bedford LMA	F	77,200	76,700	77,900
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	E	264,900	264,200	265,000
Worcester LMA	F	186,900	186,600	187,400
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		10,850	10,850	10,750
Barnstable County		52,900	53,350	51,200
Clinton		9,950	9,900	9,890
Dukes County		3,940	3,860	3,700
Fitchburg-Leominster		47,550	48,250	47,600
Gardner		20,800	20,850	20,200
Gloucester		20,850	20,900	21,200
Great Barrington		8,070	8,190	7,950
Greenfield		26,950	27,250	26,850
Marlboro		40,560	40,840	37,320
Milford		18,050	18,050	19,700
Nantucket		2,120	2,090	2,210
Newburyport		16,450	16,400	16,200
Pittsfield		69,450	69,850	67,650
Plymouth		25,750	25,770	27,740
Southbridge		15,370	15,620	14,390
Taunton		28,750	29,000	28,000
Ware		7,160	7,080	6,500

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

NT, UNEMPLOYMENT
T LABOR AREAS
ERIODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
March 1976	February 1976 R/	March 1975 R/	March 1976	February 1976 R/	March 1975 R/	Mar. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975
2,429,400	2,412,400	2,389,200	264,400	286,600	307,900			
						9.8	10.6	11.4
						8.8	9.4	10.6
1,193,100	1,185,300	1,109,700	121,000	131,400	149,900	9.2	10.0	11.9
68,300	67,600	65,100	7,700	8,500	8,400	10.1	11.2	11.4
64,500	64,200	60,800	7,200	7,700	9,700	10.0	10.7	13.8
117,400	117,600	119,200	15,400	16,800	16,900	11.6	12.5	12.4
92,600	91,700	88,000	11,200	12,000	12,300	10.8	11.6	12.3
68,000	67,100	66,200	9,200	9,600	11,700	11.9	12.5	15.0
240,100	237,000	235,000	24,800	27,200	30,000	9.4	10.3	11.3
168,400	167,400	166,500	18,500	19,200	20,900	9.9	10.3	11.2
9,600	9,550	9,600	1,250	1,300	1,150	11.5	12.0	10.7
44,750	44,250	43,300	8,150	9,100	7,900	15.4	17.1	15.4
8,870	8,760	8,610	1,080	1,140	1,280	10.9	11.5	12.9
3,400	3,320	3,200	540	540	500	13.7	14.0	13.5
42,350	42,350	40,900	5,200	5,900	6,700	10.9	12.2	14.1
18,400	18,400	17,600	2,400	2,450	2,600	11.5	11.8	12.9
18,400	18,150	18,350	2,450	2,750	2,850	11.8	13.2	13.4
7,520	7,620	7,360	550	570	590	6.8	7.0	7.4
24,150	24,200	24,400	2,800	3,050	2,450	10.4	11.2	9.1
37,890	37,860	33,880	2,670	2,980	3,350	6.6	7.3	9.0
15,900	15,750	17,000	2,150	2,300	2,700	11.9	12.7	13.7
1,940	1,890	1,970	180	200	240	8.5	9.6	10.9
14,500	14,300	14,100	1,950	2,100	2,100	11.9	12.8	13.0
62,850	62,650	60,400	6,600	7,200	7,250	9.5	10.3	10.7
22,170	21,870	23,210	3,580	3,900	4,530	13.9	15.1	16.3
14,020	14,130	12,670	1,350	1,490	1,720	8.8	9.5	12.0
25,850	25,750	24,450	2,900	3,250	3,550	10.1	11.2	12.7
6,100	5,920	5,130	1,060	1,160	1,370	14.8	16.4	21.1

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment∅	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass #	U.S.#
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
1975	2,735.0	2,430.0	305.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.5
February	2,681.6	2,386.2	295.4	11.0	9.1	10.2	8.2
March	2,697.2	2,389.2	308.0	11.4	9.1	10.6	8.7
April	2,707.9	2,407.8	300.1	11.1	8.6	10.9	8.9
May	2,738.8	2,430.7	308.1	11.3	8.3	11.5	9.2
June	2,792.0	2,448.6	343.4	12.3	9.1	12.0	8.6
July	2,779.8	2,438.8	341.0	12.3	8.7	11.8	8.4
August	2,766.7	2,446.4	320.3	11.6	8.2	11.9	8.4
September	2,754.4	2,447.3	307.1	11.1	8.1	11.9	8.3
October	2,751.8	2,451.9	299.9	10.9	7.8	11.8	8.6
November	2,752.2	2,461.3	290.9	10.6	7.8	11.4	8.3
December	2,733.7	2,450.5	283.2	10.4	7.8	10.8	8.3
1976							
January	2,716.8	2,413.6	303.2	11.2	8.8	10.0	7.8
February	2,699.0	2,412.4	286.6	9.8	8.7	8.8	7.6
March	2,693.8	2,429.4	264.4	10.6	8.1	9.4	7.5

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ∅-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

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Vol. 3 - No. 4

Data for April 1976

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

The number of unemployed persons in Massachusetts continued to decline in April, for the seventh month in a row. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 7.9 percent of the labor force, compared with 8.8 percent in March. The estimate of 233,900 unemployed residents was the lowest in sixteen months and reflected a substantial drop in the number of continued claims being filed in the Division's forty regional claims offices.

Seasonal employment expansion in contract construction, retail trade establishments, and the service industry was responsible for most of the over-the-month gain of 21,200 nonagricultural jobs in the State. Small gains in a large number of both durable and nondurable goods industries were also reported during the April survey week.

One year ago, in April 1975, the unemployment rate was estimated at 10.9 percent of the labor force. Since that time, the State has experienced a gain of over 36,000 jobs, mainly in the wholesale and retail trade and services sectors. However, manufacturing employment has also increased, led by a growth in payrolls in the fabricated metals, electronic components, textiles, apparel, and leather industries.

Over the same period, the number of unemployed has declined by 66,200, a drop of over twenty percent. While many of the unemployed have taken advantage of the increased opportunities for employment, some of the dramatic decrease in the number unemployed is due to the fact that continued claims for unemployment benefits under the special Federal Supplementary Benefits program are currently falling to only about half of what they were one year ago. At that time the State was heading towards the recession-high unemployment rate of 12.0 percent in June 1975.

Unemployment in the State's major labor areas declined also in mid-April. The Lawrence-Haverhill area registered the highest unemployment rate at 10.7 percent while the Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke area appeared the best of the metropolitan areas with a rate of 8.2 percent.

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		April 1976	March R/ 1976	April R/ 1975
Massachusetts		2,686,500	2,693,600	2,707,900
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	E	1,311,600	1,312,800	1,329,600
Brockton SMSA	E	75,900	76,100	73,800
Fall River LMA	E	71,300	72,000	70,600
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	F	128,600	129,600	132,000
Lowell LMA	E	102,500	104,100	100,700
New Bedford LMA	F	76,200	77,300	78,800
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	E	266,100	266,000	265,100
Worcester LMA	F	183,800	185,700	184,000
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		10,850	10,900	10,550
Barnstable County		55,700	53,150	54,650
Clinton		9,780	10,000	9,520
Dukes County		4,060	3,970	3,880
Fitchburg-Leominster		47,300	47,800	47,500
Gardner		20,950	20,850	20,150
Gloucester		21,000	20,900	21,400
Great Barrington		8,410	8,110	8,030
Greenfield		27,500	27,050	27,000
Marlboro		40,280	40,750	37,040
Milford		17,850	18,150	19,550
Nantucket		2,150	2,130	2,400
Newburyport		16,400	16,500	16,150
Pittsfield		69,500	69,950	67,700
Plymouth		26,100	25,860	27,430
Southbridge		15,240	15,440	14,280
Taunton		29,675	28,900	28,500
Ware		7,160	7,180	6,380

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

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TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
April 1976	March R/ 1976	April R/ 1975	April 1976	March R/ 1976	April R/ 1975	Apr. 1976	Mar. 1976	Apr. 1975
2,452,600	2,429,200	2,407,800	233,900	264,400	300,100			
						8.7	9.8	11.1
						7.9	8.8	10.9
1,200,000	1,191,900	1,189,200	111,600	120,900	140,400	8.5	9.2	10.6
69,000	68,400	65,800	6,900	7,700	8,000	9.1	10.1	10.8
65,100	64,800	61,900	6,200	7,200	8,700	8.7	10.0	12.3
114,800	113,700	115,400	13,800	15,900	16,600	10.7	12.3	12.6
93,600	93,000	88,800	8,900	11,100	11,900	8.7	10.7	11.8
69,200	68,600	67,000	7,000	8,700	11,800	9.2	11.3	15.0
244,200	241,300	234,500	21,900	24,700	30,600	8.2	9.3	11.5
168,200	167,200	164,400	15,600	18,500	19,600	8.5	10.0	10.7
9,800	9,650	9,550	1,050	1,250	1,000	9.7	11.5	9.5
49,250	45,000	47,950	6,450	8,150	6,700	11.6	15.3	12.3
8,840	8,920	8,340	940	1,080	1,180	9.6	10.8	12.4
3,750	3,420	3,440	310	550	440	7.6	13.9	11.3
42,800	42,600	41,200	4,500	5,200	6,300	9.5	10.9	13.3
18,800	18,500	17,650	2,150	2,350	2,500	10.3	11.3	12.4
19,050	18,500	18,700	1,950	2,400	2,700	9.3	11.5	12.6
7,910	7,560	7,450	500	550	580	5.9	6.8	7.2
25,100	24,250	24,450	2,400	2,800	2,550	8.7	10.4	9.4
37,960	38,090	34,260	2,320	2,660	2,780	5.8	6.5	7.5
16,000	16,000	16,950	1,850	2,150	2,600	10.4	11.8	13.3
2,020	1,950	2,200	130	180	200	6.0	8.5	8.3
14,750	14,550	14,200	1,650	1,950	1,950	10.1	11.8	12.1
63,550	63,350	60,600	5,950	6,600	7,100	8.6	9.4	10.5
23,150	22,290	23,420	2,950	3,570	4,010	11.3	13.8	14.6
14,080	14,100	12,550	1,160	1,340	1,730	7.6	8.7	12.1
27,250	26,000	25,500	2,425	2,900	3,000	8.2	10.0	10.5
6,190	6,130	5,100	970	1,050	1,280	13.5	14.6	20.1

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
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(in thousands)

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February	2,699.0	2,412.4	286.6	10.6	8.7	9.4	7.6
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April	2,686.5	2,452.6	233.9	8.7	7.4	7.9	7.5

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ∅-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

Vol. 3 - No. 5 Data for May 1976

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

MAY HIGHLIGHTS

Massachusetts employers added workers to their payrolls for the fourth month in a row in May. Eleven of the state's nineteen manufacturing industries registered small over-the-month increases, despite a rise in the number of workers idled by labor-management disputes. In the nonmanufacturing sector, payroll expansion in construction, retail sales, and tourist-related services offset a seasonal decline in employment at public education institutions.

Since May 1975, the economy of the Commonwealth has produced a total of 37,200 additional jobs. Over-the-year gains have been seen in both the manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sector. The largest increases in factory payrolls have been in electronic components, fabricated metals, textiles, apparel, leather and in the paper industry. Declines have centered mainly in firms tied to the manufacturing of ordnance and communications equipment. In the nonfactory sectors, a healthy growth in jobs in wholesale and retail trade establishments and in services more than offset the loss in opportunities in construction employment throughout the state.

An over-the-month drop in the number of people filing for benefits under the state's regular unemployment insurance program during the survey week led to a May estimate of 213,800 unemployed persons in the state. One year ago, in May, 1975, over 300,000 Massachusetts residents were out of work.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the state was estimated at 8.4 percent of the labor force during May, down slightly from a corrected April rate of 8.5 percent. A comparison of May's preliminary estimate and the final rate for April reveals that the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the state has declined steadily since January of this year and is substantially below the rate one year ago when 11.5 percent of the labor force was unemployed.

Labor force developments in the state's eight major metropolitan areas mirrored changes at the state level prior to seasonal adjustment. The Lawrence-Haverhill area registered the highest unemployment rate at 9.8 percent while the Sprinfield-Chicopee-Holyoke area appeared the best of the metropolitan areas with a rate of 7.3 percent.

LABOR FORCE, EMPL
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MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA CLASSIFICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		May 1976	April 1976 R/	May 1975 R/
Massachusetts		2,688,500	2,684,600	2,738,800
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	E	1,316,700	1,311,600	1,342,000
Brockton SMSA	E	75,100	75,800	75,500
Fall River LMA	E	71,100	71,300	70,600
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	F	126,100	125,700	133,300
Lowell LMA	E	101,700	102,300	101,600
New Bedford LMA	F	76,500	76,900	78,600
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	E	262,900	265,700	266,300
Worcester LMA	F	182,300	183,700	187,300
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		10,800	10,800	10,650
Barnstable County		59,100	55,550	58,650
Clinton		9,820	9,770	9,710
Dukes County		5,220	4,860	4,040
Fitchburg-Leominster		46,900	47,200	48,500
Gardner		20,700	20,750	20,250
Gloucester		21,500	21,000	21,350
Great Barrington		8,580	8,410	8,450
Greenfield		27,550	27,450	27,150
Marlboro		40,110	40,240	37,790
Milford		17,850	17,800	19,850
Nantucket		2,670	2,150	2,660
Newburyport		16,450	16,350	16,550
Pittsfield		69,500	69,450	69,150
Plymouth		26,790	26,620	27,610
Southbridge		15,090	15,220	14,090
Taunton		29,700	29,800	29,050
Ware		7,060	7,140	6,530

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

EMPLOYMENT
BOR AREAS
E

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
May 1976	April 1976 R/	May 1975 R/	May 1976	April 1976 R/	May 1975 R/	May 1976	April 1976	May 1975
2,474,700	2,451,500	2,430,700	213,800	233,100	308,100			
						8.0	8.7	11.3
						8.4	8.5	11.5
1,211,600	1,200,000	1,199,100	105,100	111,600	142,900	8.0	8.5	10.6
69,200	69,000	67,100	5,900	6,800	8,400	7.9	9.0	11.1
65,400	65,200	62,100	5,700	6,100	8,500	8.0	8.6	12.0
113,800	112,200	115,700	12,300	13,500	17,600	9.8	10.7	13.2
93,600	93,600	89,100	8,100	8,700	12,500	8.0	8.5	12.3
69,800	69,200	67,800	6,700	7,700	10,800	8.8	10.0	13.7
243,800	244,200	235,500	19,100	21,500	30,800	7.3	8.1	11.6
168,500	168,499	165,000	13,800	15,300	22,300	7.6	8.3	11.9
9,900	9,800	9,650	900	1,000	1,000	8.3	9.3	9.4
53,700	49,250	51,800	5,400	6,300	6,850	9.1	11.3	11.7
8,960	8,850	8,450	860	920	1,260	8.8	9.4	13.0
4,920	4,530	3,750	300	330	290	5.7	6.8	7.2
43,000	42,800	41,700	3,900	4,400	6,800	8.3	9.3	14.0
18,900	18,800	17,850	1,800	1,950	2,400	8.7	9.4	11.9
19,650	19,100	18,650	1,850	1,900	2,700	8.6	9.0	12.6
8,140	7,920	7,870	440	490	580	5.1	5.8	6.9
25,450	25,100	24,650	2,100	2,350	2,500	7.6	8.6	9.2
38,130	37,960	34,700	1,980	2,280	3,090	4.9	5.7	8.2
16,200	16,000	17,150	1,650	1,800	2,700	9.2	10.1	13.6
2,550	2,020	2,480	120	130	180	4.5	6.0	6.8
15,100	14,750	14,350	1,350	1,600	2,200	8.2	9.8	13.3
64,350	63,600	61,250	5,150	5,850	7,900	7.4	8.4	11.4
23,600	23,010	23,620	3,190	3,610	3,990	11.9	13.6	14.5
14,070	14,080	12,450	1,020	1,140	1,640	6.8	7.5	11.6
27,600	27,400	25,800	2,100	2,400	3,250	7.1	8.1	11.2
6,220	6,190	5,230	840	950	1,300	11.9	13.3	19.9

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
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B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
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Current month always preliminary

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(in thousands)

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1976							
January	2,716.8	2,413.6	303.2	11.2	8.8	10.0	7.8
February	2,699.0	2,412.4	286.6	10.6	8.7	9.4	7.6
March	2,693.6	2,429.2	264.4	9.8	8.1	8.8	7.5
April	2,684.6	2,451.5	233.1	8.7	7.4	~~7.9~~ 8.5	7.5
May	2,688.5	2,474.7	213.8	8.0	6.7	8.4	7.3

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Vol. 3 - No. 6 Data for June 1976

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

The Massachusetts unemployment rate, seasonally adjusted, declined to 7.8 percent of the labor force. The June decrease, down from the May level of 8.4 percent, continued the downward trend begun in January of this year. The comparable rate for the nation was 7.5 percent, an increase over the May figure of 7.3 percent

Employment in the Commonwealth continued its upward trend in June with an addition of 11,000 nonagricultural jobs. In the manufacturing sector, 17 of 19 industries either underwent employment increases or maintained stable levels. The fabricated metals and instruments industries registered the largest gains in the durable goods division while small increases were spread among most nondurable goods producers. Increases in the nonmanufacturing sector were centered in the wholesale and retail trade; construction; and finance, insurance and real estate industries. These gains, plus service sector gains in tourist and health-related services more than offset normal seasonal declines in public and private educational institutions.

In comparison to June 1975, the total of nonfarm jobs in Massachusetts has registered and over-the-year gain of 31,200. This increase is divided almost equally between the manufacturing and nonmanufacturing sectors. As of mid-June 1976, 68 percent of the jobs lost during the 1974-75 recession had been regained.

The number of people collecting benefits under the states regular unemployment insurance program decreased for the sixth consecutive month in June. New entrants to the labor force followed a normal seasonal increase and the total number of jobless individuals stood at 222,800. However, the expected May-June increase in the number unemployed for this year is a mere one-third of the average increase of past years of the 1970's This is due primarily to withdrawals from the labor force of the long-term unemployed causing a lower than normal net gain in unemployment.

As with unemployment, the expected May-June increase in employment was less than in previous years, roughly one-half of the usual increase. In spite of these less-than-expected increases, the trends for both the unemployment rate and total nonagricultural employment still continue to move in favorable directions. One year ago, the unemployment rate reached its recession peak of 12.0 percent which amounted to 343,400 unemployed individuals. Since that time, the rate has declined steadily to its present level of 7.8 percent and the number unemployed has fallen by one-third.

LABOR FORCE, EM
MASSACHUSETT
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MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		June 1976	May R/ 1976	June R/ 1975
Massachusetts		2,711,600	2,688,400	2,792,000
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	D	1,327,600	1,316,700	1,364,000
Brockton SMSA	E	75,900	75,200	77,000
Fall River LMA	D	70,600	70,800	71,700
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	E	126,700	126,700	135,800
Lowell LMA	D	102,000	101,800	103,500
New Bedford LMA	E	76,200	76,600	80,200
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	D	259,600	263,100	267,600
Worcester LMA	D	183,000	182,500	189,900
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		10,950	10,800	10,950
Barnstable County		64,500	59,100	64,750
Clinton		9,660	9,830	9,680
Dukes County		6,780	5,220	4,680
Fitchburg-Leominster		47,300	46,900	49,600
Gardner		21,000	20,700	20,800
Gloucester		22,500	21,500	22,600
Great Barrington		8,970	8,590	8,800
Greenfield		28,200	27,550	27,950
Marlboro		41,180	40,130	38,670
Milford		18,000	17,850	20,300
Nantucket		3,590	2,670	3,660
Newburyport		17,200	16,550	17,100
Pittsfield		70,650	69,550	69,300
Plymouth		27,410	26,810	28,390
Southbridge		15,080	15,100	14,400
Taunton		29,800	29,700	30,050
Ware		7,160	7,065	7,000

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

UNEMPLOYMENT
LABOR AREAS
ODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
June 1976	May R/ 1976	June R/ 1975	June 1976	May R/ 1976	June R/ 1975	June 1976	May 1976	June 1975
2,488,800	2,474,600	2,448,600	222,800	213,800	343,400			
						8.2	8.0	12.3
						7.8	8.4	12.0
1,217,700	1,211,600	1,205,100	109,900	105,100	158,900	8.3	8.0	11.6
69,200	69,200	67,400	6,700	6,000	9,600	8.8	8.0	12.5
65,200	65,400	62,500	5,400	5,400	9,200	7.6	7.6	12.8
113,300	114,300	115,400	13,400	12,400	20,400	10.6	9.8	15.0
93,900	93,700	89,100	8,100	8,100	14,400	7.9	8.0	13.9
70,000	69,900	69,100	6,200	6,700	11,100	8.1	8.7	13.8
239,300	243,900	232,600	20,300	19,200	35,000	7.8	7.3	13.1
168,800	168,600	164,900	14,200	13,900	25,000	7.8	7.6	13.2
10,000	9,900	9,700	950	900	1,250	8.7	8.3	11.4
59,300	53,700	57,900	5,200	5,400	6,850	8.1	9.1	10.6
8,920	8,970	8,290	740	860	1,390	7.7	8.7	14.4
6,520	4,920	4,420	260	300	260	3.8	5.7	5.6
43,200	43,000	42,100	4,100	3,900	7,500	8.7	8.3	15.1
19,100	18,900	17,950	1,900	1,800	2,850	9.0	8.7	13.7
20,550	19,650	19,750	1,950	1,850	2,850	8.7	8.6	12.6
8,520	8,150	8,190	450	440	610	5.0	5.1	6.9
26,050	25,450	25,000	2,150	2,100	2,950	7.6	7.6	10.6
38,870	38,140	34,950	2,310	1,990	3,720	5.6	5.0	9.6
16,300	16,200	17,250	1,700	1,650	3,050	9.4	9.2	15.0
3,480	2,550	3,500	110	120	160	3.1	4.5	4.4
15,600	15,150	14,550	1,600	1,400	2,550	9.3	8.5	14.9
65,050	64,350	61,450	5,600	5,200	7,850	7.9	7.5	11.3
24,220	23,610	23,850	3,190	3,200	4,540	11.6	11.9	16.0
14,010	14,070	12,480	1,070	1,030	1,920	7.1	6.8	13.3
27,600	27,600	26,000	2,200	2,100	4,050	7.4	7.1	13.5
6,260	6,220	5,430	900	845	1,570	12.6	12.0	22.4

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employmentø	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass #	U.S.#
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
1975	2,735.0	2,430.0	305.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.5
May	2,738.8	2,430.7	308.1	11.3	8.3	11.5	9.2
June	2,792.0	2,448.6	343.4	12.3	9.1	12.0	8.6
July	2,779.8	2,438.8	341.0	12.3	8.7	11.8	8.4
August	2,766.7	2,446.4	320.3	11.6	8.2	11.9	8.4
September	2,754.4	2,447.3	307.1	11.1	8.1	11.9	8.3
October	2,751.8	2,451.9	299.9	10.9	7.8	11.8	8.6
November	2,752.2	2,461.3	290.9	10.6	7.8	11.4	8.3
December	2,733.7	2,450.5	283.2	10.4	7.8	10.8	8.3
1976							
January	2,716.8	2,413.6	303.2	11.2	8.8	10.0	7.8
February	2,699.0	2,412.4	286.6	10.6	8.7	9.4	7.6
March	2,693.6	2,429.2	264.4	9.8	8.1	8.8	7.5
April	2,684.6	2,451.5	233.1	8.7	7.4	8.5	7.5
May	2,688.4	2,474.6	213.8	8.0	6.7	8.4	7.3
June	2,711.6	2,488.8	222.8	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.5

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ø-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts TRENDS

In Labor Force, Employment, Unemployment

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Vol. 3 - No. 7 Data for July 1976

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

JULY HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment in Massachusetts, seasonally adjusted, declined to 7.7 percent of the labor force, down slightly from the June rate of 7.8. The July performance continued the downward trend in unemployment begun in January of this year and brought the state rate slightly below the 7.8 percent national rate for the first time since 1971. In contrast to the consistent decline in unemployment in the state since the first of the year, the unemployment rate in the nation rose for the second consecutive month.

In July 1975, the rate in the Commonwealth stood at 11.8 percent, considerably above the corresponding 8.7 percent national unemployment rate. The number of jobless individuals in the state was then estimated at 341,000. Continued improvement over the past year has resulted in a drop in the number unemployed to 223,400 in July 1976. Part of the improvement is due to better job opportunities, part to the fact that the 1975 unemployment estimates were heavily inflated by persons collecting benefits under a Federally financed system of extended benefits who have since withdrawn from the state labor force.

The number of people claiming continued benefits under the state's regular unemployment insurance program registered an expected increase in July due to vacation shutdowns in many industries. However, the increase in claims was smaller in magnitude than the June to July increases of recent years. Furthermore, the level of continued claims registered in July was less than two-thirds of that in July 1975.

The number of unemployed individuals remained virtually unchanged from June to July. Although claims for unemployment insurance were higher, these increases were offset by continued withdrawals from the labor force of the long-term unemployed and by a drop in the number of workers entering the labor force. Total unemployment in the Commonwealth has fallen by over 25 percent since the beginning of 1976 and by over 34 percent since July 1975.

Total nonagricultural employment in July also decreased seasonally. (The nation as a whole experienced a similar decline.) The one percent decline in total nonfarm jobs was normal in that it equalled the average June-July decline for the previous years of the 1970's; however, nonagricultural employment at nearly 2,342,000 was 25,000 higher than in July 1975. The manufacturing sector was most affected by vacation shutdowns. In the nonmanufacturing divisions the services industry continued to grow, registering a 3.5 percent increase in jobs over the past year.

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1976 Affirmative Action Planning Packets Are Available For The 10 Large Labor Market Areas.
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Charles F. Hurley Building, Government Center,
Boston, Massachusetts 02114

LABOR FORCE, E
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MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		July 1976	June R/ 1976	July R/ 1975
Massachusetts		2,698,700	2,714,300	2,779,800
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	D	1,311,100	1,327,600	1,356,900
Brockton SMSA	E	74,500	76,000	75,800
Fall River LMA	D	69,300	70,700	70,600
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	E	125,900	127,200	135,000
Lowell LMA	D	102,700	103,300	103,500
New Bedford LMA	E	74,900	76,100	79,300
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	D	260,700	259,700	268,500
Worcester LMA	D	181,600	183,000	188,200
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		10,700	10,950	11,100
Barnstable County		70,500	64,500	69,200
Clinton		9,900	9,660	9,660
Dukes County		6,920	6,410	5,310
Fitchburg-Leominster		46,600	47,400	49,000
Gardner		20,400	21,000	20,950
Gloucester		23,100	22,550	23,550
Great Barrington		10,050	8,970	9,540
Greenfield		27,600	28,250	27,800
Marlboro		40,980	41,200	37,890
Milford		18,200	18,100	19,450
Nantucket		4,410	3,600	4,190
Newburyport		17,200	17,150	17,000
Pittsfield		70,500	70,650	69,400
Plymouth		28,480	28,200	28,650
Southbridge		15,220	15,080	13,690
Taunton		29,200	29,800	29,100
Ware		7,071	7,154	7,000

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

, UNEMPLOYMENT
LABOR AREAS
ODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
July 1976	June R/ 1976	July R/ 1975	July 1976	June R/ 1976	July R/ 1975	July 1976	June 1976	July 1975
2,475,300	2,490,800	2,438,800	223,400	223,500	341,000	8.3	8.2	12.3
						7.7	7.8	11.8
1,203,200	1,217,700	1,199,600	107,900	109,900	157,300	8.2	8.3	11.6
67,800	69,400	65,900	6,700	6,600	9,900	6.7	6.6	9.9
63,500	65,300	61,600	5,800	5,400	9,000	5.8	5.4	9.0
111,600	113,900	114,300	14,300	13,300	20,700	11.4	10.5	15.3
93,200	94,100	89,400	9,500	9,200	14,100	9.3	8.9	13.6
67,900	69,900	66,800	7,000	6,200	12,500	9.3	8.1	15.8
241,000	239,300	234,100	19,700	20,400	34,400	7.6	7.9	12.8
167,300	168,900	164,400	14,300	14,100	23,800	7.9	7.7	12.6
9,800	10,000	9,600	900	950	1,500	8.4	8.7	13.5
65,650	59,350	62,700	4,850	5,150	6,500	6.9	8.0	9.4
8,870	8,920	8,400	1,030	740	1,260	10.4	7.7	13.0
6,710	6,160	5,070	210	250	240	3.0	3.9	4.5
42,600	43,300	41,300	4,000	4,100	7,700	8.6	8.6	15.7
18,400	19,150	18,150	2,000	1,850	2,800	9.8	8.8	13.4
21,300	20,600	20,600	1,800	1,950	2,950	7.8	8.6	12.5
9,550	8,520	8,920	500	450	620	5.0	5.0	6.5
25,600	26,100	24,900	2,000	2,150	2,900	7.2	7.6	10.4
38,740	38,900	34,450	2,240	2,300	3,440	5.5	5.6	9.1
16,500	16,400	16,550	1,700	1,700	2,900	9.3	9.4	14.9
4,280	3,490	4,080	130	110	110	2.9	3.1	2.6
15,600	15,600	14,450	1,600	1,550	2,550	9.3	9.0	15.0
65,050	65,100	61,650	5,450	5,550	7,750	7.7	7.9	11.2
25,350	25,030	24,220	3,130	3,170	4,430	11.0	11.2	15.5
14,140	14,020	11,660	1,080	1,060	2,030	7.1	7.0	14.8
26,900	27,650	25,050	2,300	2,150	4,050	7.9	7.2	13.9
6,259	6,262	5,430	812	892	1,570	11.5	12.5	22.4

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE TRENDS IN MASSACHUSETTS

(in thousands)

Period	The Labor Force	Total Employment∅	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate (Percent of Labor Force) Mass.*	U.S.*	Mass #	U.S.#
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.9
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
1975	2,735.0	2,430.0	305.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.5
June	2,792.0	2,448.6	343.4	12.3	9.1	12.0	8.7
July	2,779.8	2,438.8	341.0	12.3	8.7	11.8	8.7
August	2,766.7	2,446.4	320.3	11.6	8.2	11.9	8.5
September	2,754.4	2,447.3	307.1	11.1	8.1	11.9	8.6
October	2,751.8	2,451.9	299.9	10.9	7.8	11.8	8.6
November	2,752.2	2,461.3	290.9	10.6	7.8	11.4	8.5
December	2,733.7	2,450.5	283.2	10.4	7.8	10.8	8.3
1976							
January	2,716.8	2,413.6	303.2	11.2	8.8	10.0	7.8
February	2,699.0	2,412.4	286.6	10.6	8.7	9.4	7.6
March	2,693.6	2,429.2	264.4	9.8	8.1	8.8	7.5
April	2,684.6	2,451.5	233.1	8.7	7.4	8.5	7.5
May	2,688.4	2,474.6	213.8	8.0	6.7	8.4	7.3
June	2,714.3	2,490.8	223.5	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.5
July	2,698.7	2,475.3	223.4	8.3	7.8	7.7	7.8

*-Not adjusted for seasonality ∅-Includes labor disputes #-Adjusted for seasonality

Source: Current Employment Series of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics as Adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Massachusetts Division of Employment Security and the Current Population Survey.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

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Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 3 **No.** 8 **Data for** August 1976

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts remained stable at 7.6 percent of the labor force over the July to August period. The August preliminary and July revised estimates of unemployment - both set at 7.6 percent - are the lowest since October, 1974. From mid-July to mid-August, the unemployment rate for the nation rose slightly from 7.8 to 7.9 percent of the labor force.

One year ago, with the unemployment rate at 11.9 percent of the labor force, 320,300 residents of the State were unemployed. Since that time unemployment has dropped steadily to the August estimate of 192,000. Much of this decline can be attributed to withdrawals from the labor force by the experienced unemployed. The level of continued claims for unemployment compensation under the State's regular UI benefit programs in August fell to the lowest level in 22 months. Regular claims for weeks of total unemployment in mid-August stood at 85,160, substantially below the 134,600 claims filed in August 1975. Continued claims for benefits under the Federal and Federal-State extended benefit programs registered a total of 63,509 in mid-August, down from the 119,378 filed one year ago.

The July 1976 preliminary unemployment rate estimate of 7.7 percent was revised slightly downward due to a revision of the State wage and salary nonagricultural employment series from a 1974 to a 1975 benchmark. In the current estimating year the nonagricultural employment estimates are based on a monthly survey of employment in a sample of establishments throughout the Commonwealth. Once each year, when all employers subject to the Massachusetts Employment Security Law have completed filing their employment and wage reports, the payroll employment estimates developed by the Division are revised to reflect this more complete count of jobs in the State. This series reveals that the number of nonfarm jobs increased over the past twelve months by 24,200. Approximately two-thirds of this increase occurred in the manufacturing division.

Anticipating an increase in spending for capital goods, employers in the important durable goods sector have been adding to their payrolls. The largest gains have occurred in establishments producing nonelectrical machinery, fabricated metals, electronic components, and instruments. The State's two largest nonmanufacturing sectors - wholesale and retail trade and services - continued their long-term upward trends over the year, providing a combined total of 25,800 more jobs. Payrolls contracted meanwhile in contract construction, transportation and public utilities, finance, insurance, and real estate, and government employment.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	AREA * CLASSI-FICATION	THE LABOR FORCE		
		August 1976	July R/ 1976	August R/ 1975
Massachusetts		2,660,400	2,675,400	2,766,700
Unadjusted				
Seasonally Adjusted				
Major Labor Areas				
Boston SMSA	D	1,301,200	1,312,200	1,351,200
Brockton SMSA	E	72,400	72,900	76,200
Fall River LMA	D	68,800	68,400	71,800
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	E	122,700	123,700	130,900
Lowell LMA	D	100,700	100,400	103,200
New Bedford LMA	E	74,600	74,300	78,400
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	D	251,700	252,400	270,900
Worcester LMA	D	177,100	177,500	187,800
Other Labor Areas				
Athol		10,550	10,500	11,250
Barnstable County		68,800	69,350	70,250
Clinton		9,580	9,810	9,690
Dukes County		7,820	7,750	6,120
Fitchburg-Leominster		45,600	46,000	47,900
Gardner		19,750	20,000	20,300
Gloucester		22,450	22,500	23,150
Great Barrington		9,620	9,840	9,490
Greenfield		27,600	28,000	27,750
Marlboro		41,280	41,620	38,870
Milford		17,400	17,750	19,250
Nantucket		4,410	4,380	4,280
Newburyport		16,100	16,100	16,700
Pittsfield		68,500	69,050	68,950
Plymouth		33,050	32,810	32,130
Southbridge		14,630	14,710	15,130
Taunton		28,000	28,150	28,750
Ware		7,160	7,190	7,170

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

Total Employment is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

Total Unemployment is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

, UNEMPLOYMENT
LABOR AREAS
ODS

TOTAL EMPLOYMENT			TOTAL UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
August 1976	July R/ 1976	August R/ 1975	August 1976	July R/ 1976	August R/ 1975	Aug. 1976	July 1976	Aug. 1975
2,468,400	2,454,600	2,446,400	192,000	220,800	320,300			
						7.2	8.3	11.6
						7.6	7.6	11.9
1,205,300	1,204,600	1,199,700	95,900	107,600	151,500	7.4	8.2	11.2
66,800	66,300	66,800	5,600	6,600	9,400	7.7	9.1	12.3
64,300	62,600	63,600	4,500	5,800	8,200	6.5	8.5	11.4
111,000	109,600	112,200	11,700	14,100	18,700	9.5	11.4	14.3
92,900	91,000	90,400	7,800	9,400	12,800	7.8	9.4	12.4
69,100	67,300	67,700	5,500	7,000	10,700	7.4	9.4	13.6
234,700	233,400	239,000	17,000	19,000	31,900	6.8	7.5	11.8
165,000	163,400	164,900	12,100	14,100	22,900	6.8	7.9	12.2
9,700	9,600	9,750	850	900	1,500	8.1	8.6	13.3
64,600	64,600	63,750	4,200	4,750	6,500	6.1	6.8	9.3
8,840	8,800	8,500	740	1,010	1,190	7.7	10.3	12.3
7,640	7,530	5,860	180	220	260	2.3	2.8	4.2
42,200	42,000	41,400	3,400	4,000	6,500	7.5	8.7	13.6
18,150	18,000	17,500	1,600	2,000	2,800	8.1	10.0	13.8
21,000	20,750	20,500	1,450	1,750	2,650	6.5	7.8	11.4
9,200	9,350	8,960	420	490	530	4.4	5.0	5.6
25,900	26,050	24,700	1,700	1,950	3,050	6.2	7.0	11.0
39,370	39,400	35,770	1,910	2,220	3,100	4.6	5.3	8.0
16,100	16,100	16,400	1,300	1,650	2,850	7.5	9.3	14.8
4,320	4,260	4,160	90	120	120	2.0	2.7	2.8
14,800	14,500	14,400	1,300	1,600	2,300	8.1	9.9	13.8
63,950	63,700	61,550	4,550	5,350	7,400	6.6	7.7	10.7
30,280	29,740	27,670	2,770	3,070	4,460	8.4	9.4	13.9
13,700	13,650	13,280	930	1,060	1,850	6.4	7.2	12.2
26,150	25,900	25,400	1,850	2,250	3,350	6.6	8.0	11.7
6,390	6,380	5,660	770	810	1,510	10.8	11.3	21.1

The Labor Force is the total of the employed and unemployed.

**Area Classification*

Group	Description	Unemployment Rate
A	Overall Labor Shortage	Less than 1.5%
B	Low Unemployment	1.5 to 2.9%
C	Moderate Unemployment	3.0 to 5.9%
D	Substantial Unemployment	6.0 to 8.9%
E	" "	9.0 to 11.9%
F	" "	12.0 or more

Current month always preliminary
R = Revised

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1971 - 1976

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Adju	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5.
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.
1975	2,735.0	2,430.0	305.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.
July	2,779.8	2,438.8	341.0	12.3	8.7	11.8	8.
August	2,766.7	2,446.4	320.3	11.6	8.2	11.9	8.
September	2,754.4	2,447.3	307.1	11.1	8.1	11.9	8.
October	2,751.8	2,451.9	299.9	10.9	7.8	11.8	8.
November	2,752.2	2,461.3	290.9	10.6	7.8	11.4	8.
December	2,733.7	2,450.5	283.2	10.4	7.8	10.8	8.
1976*							
January	2,702.8	2,401.8	301.0	11.1	8.8	10.1	7.
February	2,686.4	2,400.6	285.8	10.6	8.7	9.4	7.
March	2,680.3	2,417.1	263.2	9.8	8.1	8.8	7.
April	2,667.7	2,436.1	231.6	8.7	7.4	8.5	7.
May	2,670.6	2,458.5	212.1	7.9	6.7	8.4	7.
June	2,694.8	2,473.9	220.9	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.
July	2,675.4	2,454.6	220.8	8.3	7.8	7.6	7.
August	2,660.4	2,468.4	192.0	7.2	7.6	7.6	7.

* 1976 data for Massachusetts revised to reflect 1975 benchmark of nonagricultural employment

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employm and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol 3 No. 8 9 Data for SEPTEMBER 1976

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment in Massachusetts fell during September to 7.3 percent of the labor force on a seasonally adjusted basis. This decrease from the July and August rates, both estimated at 7.6 percent, places the September rate of unemployment at the lowest level since August 1974. Nationally, the rate declined slightly from the August figure of 7.9 percent to 7.8 percent in September.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Commonwealth rose during September and has increased by 23,500 jobs over the September 1975 total. Nearly two thirds of this over-the-year improvement has occurred in the manufacturing division; notably in the durable goods sector. Increases in employment were centered in the following industries: fabricated metals, nonelectrical machinery, transportation equipment, instruments and electronic components. Seven of nine nondurable goods industries added jobs, with the paper and textile industries increasing the most. In the nonmanufacturing division, the wholesale and retail trade and services industries noted over-the-year expansion while the construction industry continued its slump by declining 13 percent. Nationally, construction employment has also fallen, but at a percentage rate of less than half that of Massachusetts. Since the February 1975 low point in total nonagricultural employment (2,242,700 jobs), moderate steady improvement has increased the level to 2,306,100 in September 1976.

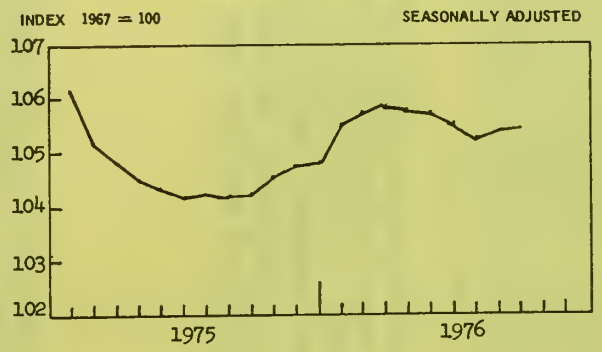
Unemployment among Massachusetts residents totalled 172,200 during September; slightly more than one half the number one year ago when 307,100 were without jobs. The decrease in unemployment is a result of decreases in the State's regular and extended unemployment compensation programs and labor force withdrawals of the long term unemployed. The September situation also is characterized by the return to school of many students who were either employed in summer jobs or seeking jobs.

The number of people collecting unemployment compensation under the State's regular benefit program fell in September to the lowest level since November 1973. Regular claims for weeks of total unemployment during mid-September stood at 73,280, a 14 percent decrease from August. The Federal and Federal-State extended benefits program also exhibited decreases during September resulting in the number of continued claims for these programs representing only one-half of the 112,659 of one year ago.

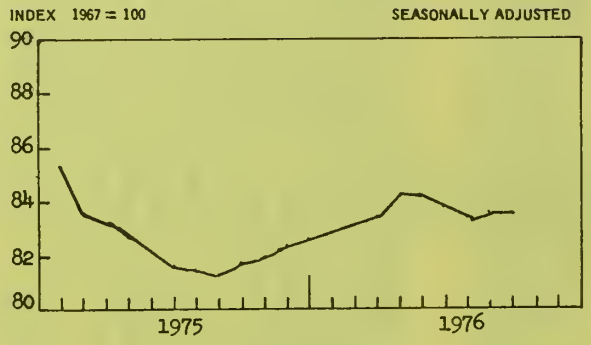
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

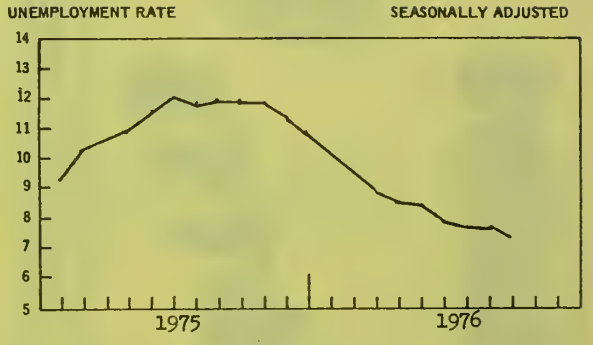
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



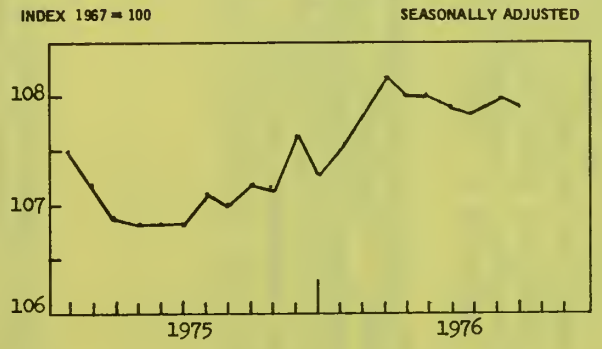
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



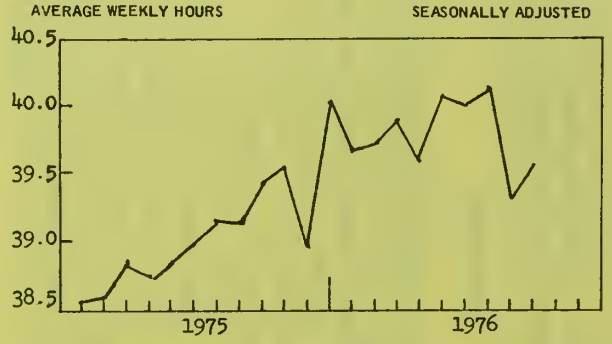
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



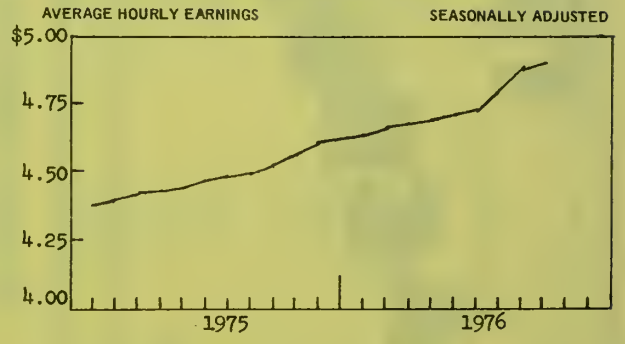
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA-- SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	September 1976		August 1976 R/		September 1975 R/	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,448.2	87,819.0	2,450.6	87,981.0	2,429.0	85,158.0
The Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.8	7.6	7.9	11.9	8.6
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,285.8	84,533.0	2,285.5	84,557.0	2,262.1	81,646.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	585.7	13,751.0	585.7	13,640.0	572.0	13,157.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.5	39.6	39.3	39.9	39.4	39.8
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$4.87	$4.91	$4.85	$4.89	$4.52	$4.60

Ø In 000's

1/ Production Workers

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
		Sept. 1976	Aug. R/ 1976	Sept. R/ 1975	Sept. 1976	Aug. R/ 1976	Sept. R/ 1975	Sept. 1976	Aug. R/ 1976	Sept. R/ 1975	Sept. 1976	Aug. 1976	Sept. 1975	Sept. 1976	Aug. 1976	Sept. 1975
	Massachusetts	2,638,500	2,661,600	2,754,400	2,466,300	2,468,600	2,447,300	172,200	193,000	307,100	6.5	7.3	11.1	7.3	7.6	11.9
	Major Labor Areas															
D	Boston SMSA	1,288,600	1,301,200	1,345,300	1,202,700	1,205,300	1,197,400	85,900	95,900	147,900	6.7	7.4	11.0			
E	Brockton SMSA	73,500	73,700	75,100	68,200	68,000	68,100	5,300	5,700	7,000	7.2	7.7	9.3			
D	Fall River LMA	68,900	68,600	72,300	64,200	64,100	64,500	4,700	4,500	7,800	6.8	6.6	10.8			
E	Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	121,600	121,800	131,200	111,000	110,000	113,400	10,600	11,800	17,800	8.7	9.7	13.6			
D	Lowell LMA	99,600	100,800	102,500	92,700	92,900	90,200	6,900	7,900	12,300	6.9	7.8	12.0			
E	New Bedford LMA	74,300	74,600	79,300	69,100	69,000	69,500	5,200	5,600	9,800	7.0	7.5	12.4			
D	Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	251,600	252,100	270,600	236,900	234,900	240,400	14,700	17,200	30,200	5.8	6.8	11.2			
D	Worcester LMA	178,200	177,300	189,000	167,600	165,100	166,900	10,600	12,200	22,100	5.9	6.9	11.7			
	Other Labor Areas															
	Athol	10,400	10,550	11,200	9,650	9,700	9,800	750	850	1,400	7.2	8.1	12.5			
	Barnstable County	63,050	68,800	64,100	58,900	64,600	57,500	4,150	4,200	6,600	6.6	6.1	10.3			
	Clinton	9,460	9,600	9,500	8,780	8,850	8,490	680	750	1,010	7.2	7.8	10.6			
	Dukes County	5,840	6,560	5,430	5,650	6,380	5,180	190	180	250	3.3	2.7	4.6			
	Fitchburg-Leominster	45,400	45,600	48,000	42,500	42,200	41,800	2,900	3,400	6,200	6.4	7.5	12.9			
	Gardner	19,350	19,800	20,700	17,950	18,150	17,700	1,400	1,650	3,000	7.2	8.3	14.5			
	Gloucester	21,950	22,500	22,400	20,600	21,000	20,000	1,350	1,500	2,400	6.2	6.7	10.7			
	Great Barrington	9,830	9,630	9,570	9,480	9,210	9,100	350	420	470	3.6	4.4	4.9			
	Greenfield	27,650	27,600	28,600	26,200	25,900	25,900	1,450	1,700	2,700	5.2	6.2	9.4			
	Marlboro	42,050	41,660	39,630	40,340	39,730	36,750	1,710	1,930	2,880	4.1	4.6	7.3			
	Milford	17,300	17,400	18,750	16,150	16,100	16,250	1,150	1,300	2,500	6.6	7.5	13.3			
	Nantucket	3,750	4,410	3,500	3,660	4,320	3,390	90	90	110	2.4	2.0	3.1			
	Newburyport	15,950	16,150	16,450	14,800	14,800	14,400	1,150	1,350	2,050	7.2	8.4	12.5			
	Pittsfield	67,550	68,550	68,100	63,350	63,950	61,150	4,200	4,600	6,950	6.2	6.7	10.2			
	Plymouth	34,500	34,080	32,630	32,080	31,260	28,310	2,420	2,820	4,320	7.0	8.3	13.2			
	Southbridge	14,520	14,650	15,020	13,800	13,710	13,390	720	940	1,630	5.0	6.4	10.9			
	Taunton	27,850	28,050	28,450	26,200	26,150	25,300	1,650	1,900	3,150	5.9	6.8	11.1			
	Ware	6,760	6,940	7,320	6,150	6,160	5,880	610	780	1,440	9.0	11.2	19.7			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

* *Area Classification*

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Major labor areas classified in Groups D, E, and F are regarded as areas of "substantial employment." Groups A, B, and C range from overall labor shortage to moderate unemployment. The Department of Labor also classifies several hundred other areas when they meet the substantial unemployment criteria. These areas are not placed in specific letter classification categories. Areas of less than 1,500 population may be "certified" by State employment security agencies, upon authorization by the Department, as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment. Such areas are not included in the list of classified areas.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1971 - 1976

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Adj	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U
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1975	2,735.0	2,430.0	305.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.
July	2,779.8	2,438.8	341.0	12.3	8.7	11.8	8.
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December	2,733.7	2,450.5	283.2	10.4	7.8	10.8	8.
1976*							
February	2,686.4	2,400.6	285.8	10.6	8.7	9.4	7.
March	2,680.3	2,417.1	263.2	9.8	8.1	8.8	7.
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July	2,675,4	2,454.6	220.8	8.3	7.8	7.6	7.
August	2,661.6	2,468.6	193.0	7.3	7.6	7.6	7.
September	2,638.5	2,466.3	172.2	6.5	7.4	7.3	7.

* 1976 Data for Massachusetts Revised to Reflect 1975 Benchmark of Nonagricultural Employmen

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employ and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

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Vol. 3 No. 10 Data for OCTOBER 1976

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment in Massachusetts continued its downward trend during October, with the seasonally adjusted rate declining to 7.0 percent of the civilian labor force. This decrease from September's 7.3 percent makes the October rate the lowest since July 1974. The unemployment rate for the United States moved in the opposite direction, rising to 7.9 percent in October from 7.8 percent in September. The national rate has fluctuated between 7.8 and 7.9 percent since June, showing virtually no improvement over the January level of 7.8 percent. Over the same ten-month period, the unemployment rate in the Commonwealth has fallen from 10.1 to 7.0 percent, a 3.1 percentage point decrease.

During the past year in Massachusetts there has been an estimated drop in unemployment from approximately 300,000 (estimated for both October 1975 and January 1976) to 160,500 in October 1976. This drop, however, is principally related to the after-effects of the temporary return to the labor force of large numbers of persons who participated in 1975 in the Federal Supplemental Benefit (FSB) program.

Claims for continued weeks of unemployment benefits under the regular program in Massachusetts have declined by 35 percent compared to the total one year ago, while a 50-percent decrease has occurred in claims filed under the state and federal-state extended benefits programs.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose only slightly during the September to October period. From October 1975 to October 1976, a 20,000 gain was recorded. The manufacturing division accounted for nearly two-thirds of this increase with much of the improvement centered in the durable goods sector. This sector has lagged behind nondurables during most of the current recovery, but has begun to exhibit employment gains in recent months. Gains in the durable goods sector are especially important since its output serves as inputs to the production processes of other industries, whereas nondurable goods are predominantly final-use consumer products. The most noticeable additions over the past year in the durable goods sector have occurred in transportation equipment, primary metals, nonelectrical machinery, and professional and scientific instruments.

In the nonmanufacturing sector, the wholesale and retail trade and services industries have increased their employment levels over one year ago. Employment in services rose by 17,500 and has reached an all-time peak of 518,800 jobs. Wholesale and retail trade recovered 6,500 jobs in the year but remains 5,500 below October 1974.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
		Oct. 1976	Sept. 1976 R	Oct. 1975 R	Oct. 1976	Sept. 1976 R	Oct. 1975 R	Oct. 1976	Sept. 1976 R	Oct. 1975 R	Oct. 1976	Sept. 1976	Oct. 1975	Oct. 1976	Sept. 1976	Oct. 1975
	Massachusetts	2,631,200	2,644,800	2,751,800	2,470,700	2,472,500	2,451,900	160,500	172,300	299,900	6.1	6.5	10.9	7.0	7.3	11.8
	Major Labor Areas															
D	Boston SMSA	1,287,800	1,284,000	1,349,300	1,208,000	1,198,300	1,206,100	79,800	85,700	143,200	6.2	6.7	10.6			
D	Brockton SMSA	74,500	74,300	76,400	69,600	69,000	67,700	4,900	5,300	8,700	6.6	7.1	11.4			
D	Fall River LMA	68,400	69,400	72,500	63,900	64,500	65,000	4,500	4,900	7,500	6.6	7.1	10.3			
E	Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	122,400	122,600	132,100	112,800	112,000	114,700	9,600	10,600	17,400	7.8	8.7	13.2			
D	Lowell LMA	99,500	100,100	103,200	93,300	93,200	91,200	6,200	6,900	12,000	6.2	6.9	11.6			
D	New Bedford LMA	74,300	74,800	79,800	68,600	69,500	69,300	5,700	5,300	10,500	7.7	7.1	13.2			
D	Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	255,300	256,400	273,100	241,700	241,600	244,300	13,600	14,800	28,800	5.3	5.8	10.5			
D	Worcester LMA	178,800	179,000	190,100	169,400	168,400	168,800	9,400	10,600	21,300	5.3	5.9	11.2			
	Other Labor Areas															
	Athol	10,300	10,550	11,050	9,700	9,800	9,750	600	750	1,300	5.8	7.1	11.8			
	Barnstable County	56,550	63,400	58,000	52,300	59,250	50,650	4,250	4,150	7,350	7.5	6.5	12.7			
	Clinton	9,590	9,520	9,980	8,880	8,840	8,760	710	680	1,220	7.4	7.1	12.2			
	Dukes County	4,630	5,890	3,990	4,410	5,690	3,660	220	200	330	4.8	3.4	8.3			
	Fitchburg-Leominster	45,400	45,700	48,100	42,700	42,800	42,100	2,700	2,900	6,000	5.9	6.3	12.5			
	Gardner	19,350	19,500	20,400	18,100	18,100	17,950	1,250	1,400	2,450	6.5	7.2	12.0			
	Gloucester	21,600	22,100	21,900	20,150	20,750	19,600	1,450	1,350	2,300	6.7	6.1	10.5			
	Great Barrington	8,430	9,890	8,320	8,100	9,540	7,870	330	350	450	3.9	3.5	5.4			
	Greenfield	27,450	27,800	27,450	26,100	26,350	24,700	1,350	1,450	2,750	4.9	5.2	10.0			
	Marlboro	42,180	42,310	39,620	40,640	40,600	36,900	1,540	1,710	2,720	3.7	4.0	6.9			
	Milford	17,150	17,400	18,350	16,150	16,250	16,000	1,000	1,150	2,350	5.8	6.6	12.8			
	Nantucket	2,770	3,780	2,670	2,660	3,690	2,510	110	90	160	4.0	2.4	6.0			
	Newburyport	15,700	16,100	16,450	14,650	14,900	14,400	1,050	1,200	2,050	6.7	7.5	12.5			
	Pittsfield	67,100	67,950	67,750	63,000	63,750	61,000	4,100	4,200	6,750	6.1	6.2	10.0			
	Plymouth	33,510	33,180	32,310	31,430	30,900	28,200	2,080	2,280	4,110	6.2	6.9	12.7			
	Southbridge	14,540	14,630	14,750	13,810	13,890	13,280	730	740	1,470	5.0	5.1	10.0			
	Taunton	27,950	27,950	28,600	26,550	26,400	25,600	1,400	1,550	3,000	5.0	5.5	10.5			
	Ware	6,640	6,800	7,070	6,080	6,190	5,830	560	610	1,240	8.4	9.0	17.5			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

* *Area Classification*

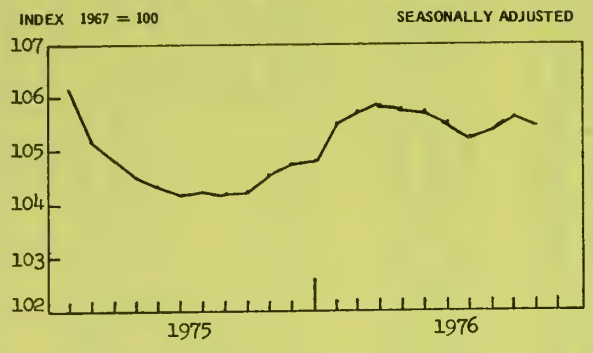
Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Major labor areas classified in Groups D, E, and F are regarded as areas of "substantial unemployment." Groups A, B, and C range from overall labor shortage to moderate unemployment. The Department of Labor also classifies several hundred other areas when they meet the substantial unemployment criteria. These areas are not placed in specific letter classification categories. Areas of less than 1,500 population may be "certified" by State employment security agencies, upon authorization by the Department, as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment. Such areas are not included in the list of classified areas.

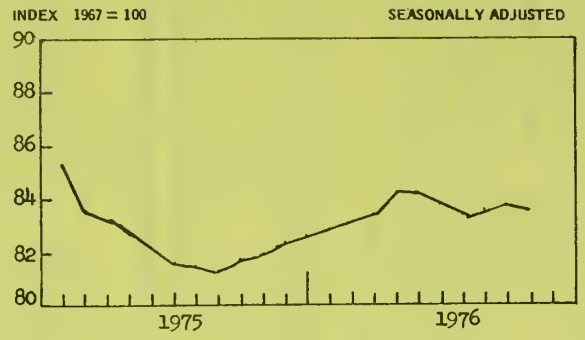
Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

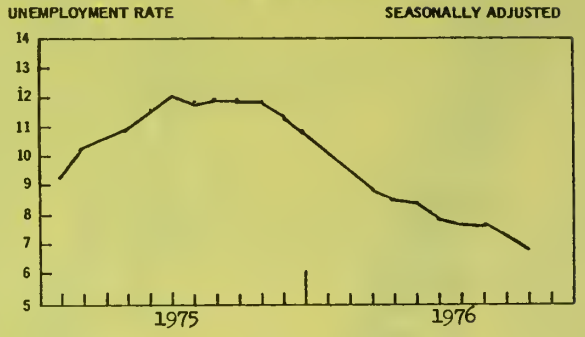
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



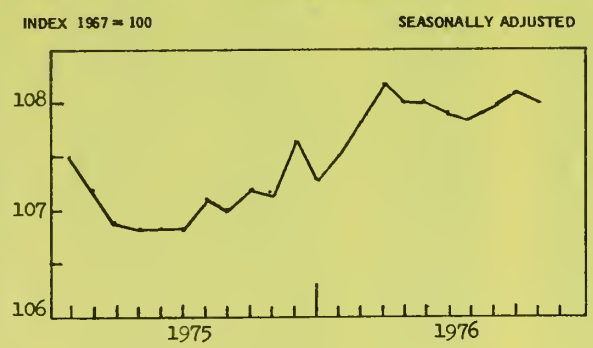
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



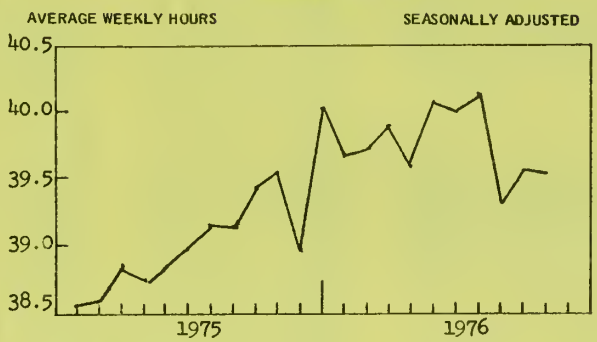
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



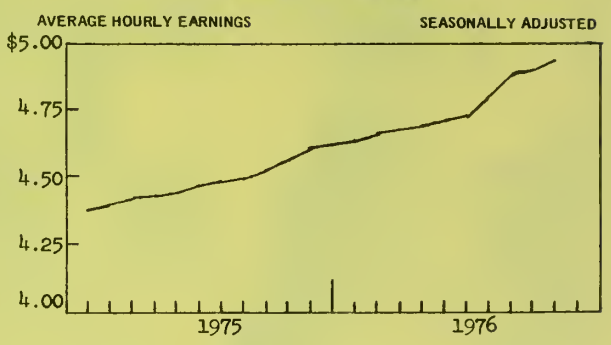
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	October 1976		September 1976 R/		October 1975 R/	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,449.5	87,773.0	2,453.4	87,819.0	2,429.9	85,151.0
The Unemployment Rate	7.0	7.9	7.3	7.8	11.8	8.6
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,287.9	79,513.0	2,291.3	79,567.0	2,267.7	77,555.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	585.0	18,976.0	588.6	19,122.0	572.8	18,493.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.5	39.8	39.5	39.7	39.5	39.8
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$4.93	$5.30	$4.87	$5.29	$4.57	$4.90

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1971 - 1976

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate		
				Unadjusted		Seasonally A
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2
1975	2,735.0	2,430.0	305.0	11.2	8.5	11.2
September	2,754.4	2,447.3	307.1	11.1	8.1	11.9
October	2,751.8	2,451.9	299.9	10.9	7.8	11.8
November	2,752.2	2,461.3	290.9	10.6	7.8	11.4
December	2,733.7	2,450.5	283.2	10.4	7.8	10.8
1976						
January	2,702.8	2,401.8	301.0	11.1	8.8	10.1
February	2,686.4	2,400.6	285.8	10.6	8.7	9.4
March	2,680.3	2,417.1	263.2	9.8	8.1	8.8
April	2,667.7	2,436.1	231.6	8.7	7.4	8.5
May	2,670.6	2,458.5	212.1	7.9	6.7	8.4
June	2,694.8	2,473.9	220.9	8.2	8.0	7.8
July	2,675.4	2,454.6	220.8	8.3	7.8	7.6
August	2,661.6	2,468.6	193.0	7.3	7.6	7.6
September	2,644.8	2,472.5	172.3	6.5	7.4	7.3
October	2,631.2	2,470.7	160.5	6.1	7.2	7.0

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Emplo and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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Massachusetts State Employment Service
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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

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University of Massachusetts

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 3 **No.** 11 NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS **Data for** NOVEMBER 1976

Based on preliminary estimates, the seasonally adjusted rate of unemployment in Massachusetts declined from 7.0 to 6.4 percent of the labor force over the October to November period. However, a review of other economic indicators for the Commonwealth suggests that the current rate is not an accurate reflection of the state's true unemployment situation. A better estimate of the unemployment situation in Massachusetts will be available in March when the Bureau of Labor Statistics makes its annual readjustment in the monthly rates of 1976. Although the preliminary rate does reflect a downward trend in unemployment which has occurred during 1976, initial indications are that the state's present unemployment rate may be understating unemployment by a full percentage point or more.

The number of unemployed Massachusetts residents in November declined by 11,200, the smallest month to month decline in four months. An estimated 149,300 individuals remained out of work. One year ago, the rate of unemployment in the state reached 11.4 percent. At that time, 290,900 persons were unemployed throughout Massachusetts. Unemployment in the United States inched slightly upward during November resulting in an unemployment rate of 8.1 percent, up from the October level of 7.9 percent.

The number of persons employed in the Commonwealth continued to rise during November as establishments in the state's important durable goods industries continued to add to their payrolls and the service industry maintained its long-standing pattern of growth. A total of 2,475,000 residents of the Commonwealth were at work during the survey week in November. This represents an increase of 13,700 over the total one year ago and follows the pattern at the national level when employers have been continuously adding workers at the same time as they are increasing the average hours worked by their present personnel.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment rose by 7,200 between October and November 1976. Much of the increase was attributed to a seasonal expansion of 5,000 jobs in the wholesale and retail trade segment as firms geared up for the holiday shopping season.

The manufacturing sector accounted for nearly two-thirds of the yearly job increase with improvement concentrated almost entirely within the durable goods. The most noteworthy additions over the past year have occurred in nonelectrical machinery with smaller increases posted in professional and scientific instruments, transportation equipment, electronic components and fabricated metals. There were no relevant yearly employment shifts within the individual soft foods industries. Employment in the nonmanufacturing sector expanded by 6,900 from November 1975. Job gains occurred in the service and wholesale and retail trade industries. All other major phases of nonmanufacturing showed over the year declines with the 7,800 job loss in construction the most significant.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

Area Classification *	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			
		Nov. 1976	Oct. R/ 1976	Nov. R/ 1975	No 19
	Massachusetts	2,624,300	2,631,200	2,752,200	2,47
	Major Labor Areas				
D	Boston SMSA	1,284,500	1,287,400	1,352,500	1,211
D	Brockton SMSA	74,500	74,700	76,900	7
D	Fall River LMA	68,400	68,800	72,800	6
E	Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	121,200	121,700	131,800	11
D	Lowell LMA	99,800	99,100	102,900	9
D	New Bedford LMA	73,600	74,300	79,300	6
D	Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	255,900	255,100	273,200	24
D	Worcester LMA	179,200	179,100	190,900	17
	Other Labor Areas				
	Athol	9,300	10,350	10,950	8
	Barnstable County	54,000	56,600	55,400	49
	Clinton	9,650	9,600	9,780	9
	Dukes County	4,490	4,630	3,750	4
	Fitchburg-Leominster	45,100	45,000	48,000	42
	Gardner	19,250	19,350	20,300	18
	Gloucester	21,250	21,600	21,750	19
	Great Barrington	8,410	8,440	8,220	8
	Greenfield	27,300	27,500	27,400	26
	Marlboro	42,680	42,200	40,490	41
	Milford	17,900	17,900	18,300	16
	Nantucket	2,350	2,780	2,400	2
	Newburyport	16,300	15,850	16,200	15
	Pittsfield	66,900	67,200	67,600	63
	Plymouth	33,100	33,630	31,140	31
	Southbridge	14,570	14,520	14,730	13
	Taunton	27,700	27,775	28,550	26
	Ware	6,680	6,650	7,130	6

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

UEMPLOYMENT
BOR AREAS

ment 2/		Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/					
					Unadjusted			Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
Oct. R/ 176	Nov. R/ 1975	Nov. 1976	Oct. R/ 1976	Nov R/ 1975	Nov. 1976	Oct. 1976	Nov. 1975	Nov. 1976	Oct. 1976	Nov. 1975
7,700	2,461,300	149,300	160,500	290,900	5.7	6.1	10.6	6.4	7.0	11.4
,600	1,216,000	72,900	79,800	136,500	5.7	6.2	10.1			
,700	68,200	4,500	5,000	8,700	6.0	6.7	11.3			
,400	65,100	4,400	4,400	7,700	6.4	6.4	10.6			
,100	114,700	8,600	9,600	17,100	7.1	7.9	13.0			
,800	91,500	6,200	6,300	11,400	6.2	6.4	11.1			
,600	69,000	5,500	5,700	10,300	7.5	7.7	13.0			
,500	245,700	12,700	13,600	27,500	5.0	5.3	10.1			
,700	170,400	8,800	9,400	20,500	4.9	5.2	10.7			
,700	9,650	550	650	1,300	5.9	6.3	11.9			
,350	47,550	4,600	4,250	7,850	8.5	7.5	14.2			
,890	8,620	610	710	1,160	6.3	7.4	11.9			
,410	3,330	310	220	420	6.9	4.8	11.2			
,300	42,100	2,500	2,700	5,900	5.5	6.0	12.3			
,100	17,900	1,150	1,250	2,400	6.0	6.5	11.8			
,150	19,400	1,450	1,450	2,350	6.8	6.7	10.8			
,110	7,720	370	330	500	4.4	3.9	6.1			
,150	24,650	1,300	1,350	2,750	4.8	4.9	10.0			
,690	37,640	1,380	1,510	2,850	3.2	3.6	7.0			
,850	16,000	950	1,050	2,300	5.3	5.9	12.6			
,670	2,220	140	110	180	6.0	4.0	7.5			
,800	14,250	1,000	1,050	1,950	6.1	6.6	12.0			
,100	60,700	3,800	4,100	6,900	5.7	6.1	10.2			
,560	27,000	1,720	2,070	4,140	5.2	6.2	13.3			
,820	13,250	650	700	1,480	4.5	4.8	10.0			
,425	25,650	1,225	1,350	2,900	4.4	4.9	10.2			
,090	5,920	500	560	1,210	7.5	8.4	17.0			

e Classification

c month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security ecies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classi- on code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and nd, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

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MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1971 - 1976

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1975	2,735.0	2,430.0	305.0	11.2	8.5	11.2
September	2,754.4	2,447.3	307.1	11.1	8.1	11.9
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December	2,733.7	2,450.5	283.2	10.4	7.8	10.8
1976						
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February	2,686.4	2,400.6	285.8	10.6	8.7	9.4
March	2,680.3	2,417.1	263.2	9.8	8.1	8.8
April	2,667.7	2,436.1	231.6	8.7	7.4	8.5
May	2,670.6	2,458.5	212.1	7.9	6.7	8.4
June	2,694.8	2,473.9	220.9	8.2	8.0	7.8
July	2,675.4	2,454.6	220.8	8.3	7.8	7.6
August	2,661.6	2,468.6	193.0	7.3	7.6	7.6
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October	2,631.2	2,470.7	160.5	6.1	7.2	7.0
November	2,624.3	2,475.0	149.3	5.7	7.4	6.4

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employ and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS
COLLECTION

Vol. 34 **No.** 12 **Data for** DECEMBER 1976

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment in Massachusetts, after seasonal adjustment, declined from 6.4 percent of the labor force in November to 6.2 percent in December. While the decline correctly reflects an improving state economy, the estimated level of unemployment (1.6 percentage points below the comparable national rate of 7.8 percent) was unrealistically low. The mandatory Federal formula for preliminary monthly estimates has produced substantial overestimates in 1976 in some states and substantial underestimates in other states like Massachusetts.

These preliminary unemployment estimates will shortly be replaced by final ones computed from Massachusetts data collected in 1976 in the national monthly household survey made for the United States Department of Labor. The revised numbers are expected to show that unemployment rates in Massachusetts for most of 1976 were at higher levels than the preliminary estimates indicate and in fact were above the corresponding national rates throughout the year.

While the estimates overstated the degree of improvement, they did accurately signal the direction of an economy slowly reviving from a major recession. December gains in trade and services pushed nonagricultural employment to the highest level since 1974. From December 1975 to December 1976, total employment rose by 25,000.

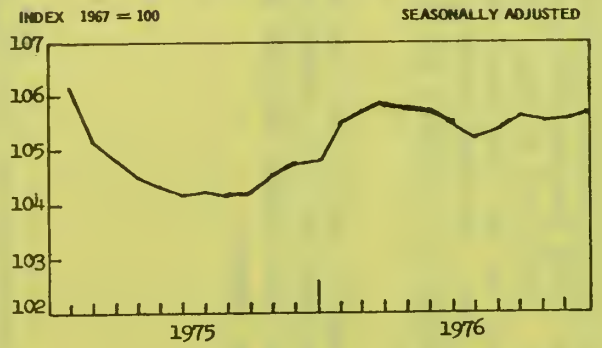
A review of 1976 shows that industries producing durable goods accounted for nearly half the net job recovery in the year, with computers and business machinery dominating this sector. Nondurables generally held near December 1975 levels with a net loss of 500 jobs (5/10ths of a percent) in the twelve months. Since the average annual job loss in the three preceding years was 11,000, this halt in the long-term decline in the Massachusetts soft-goods sector may be a hopeful omen. Nonmanufacturing job rolls expanded nearly 14,000 in the year with services reaching the highest level on record and trade recovering much of the ground lost in 1975.

A look at the major metropolitan areas of the Commonwealth shows that the unemployment rates (not seasonally adjusted) generally rose as the ranks of the unemployed were swelled by substantial numbers of construction workers and others who had been producing goods and services associated with the holiday season.

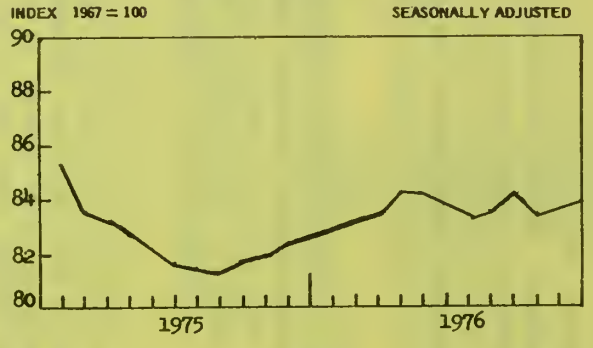
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

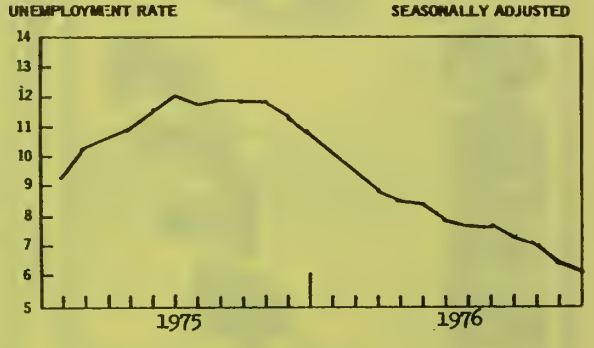
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



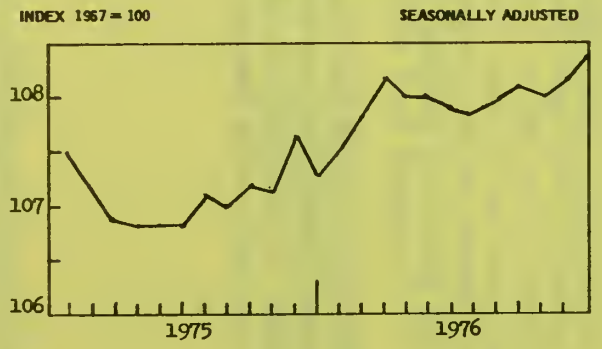
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



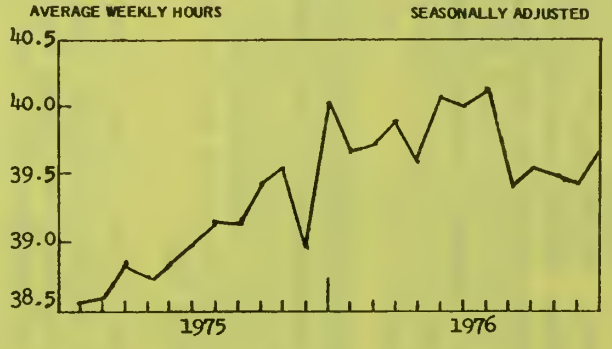
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



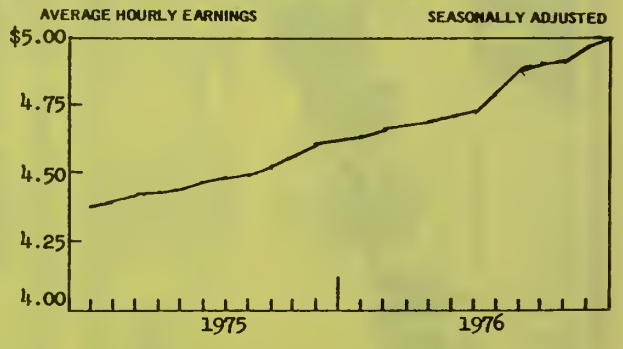
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	December 1976		November 1976		December 1975	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,459.2	88,352.0	2,452.3	88,130.0	2,432.6	85,394.0
The Unemployment Rate	6.2	7.8	6.4	8.0	10.8	8.3
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,294.6	79,957.0	2,290.8	79,700.0	2,269.4	77,764.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	587.8	19,093.0	586.5	19,057.0	576.7	18,555.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.7	40.1	39.4	40.1	39.8	40.3
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.01	$5.37	$4.97	$5.35	$4.60	$4.96

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
		Dec. 1976	Nov. R/ 1976	Dec. R/ 1975	Dec. 1976	Nov. R/ 1976	Dec. R/ 1975	Dec. 1976	Nov. R/ 1976	Dec. R/ 1975	Dec. 1976	Nov. 1976	Dec. 1975	Dec. 1976	Nov. 1976	Dec. 1975
	Massachusetts	2,630,300	2,623,800	2,733,700	2,475,800	2,474,500	2,450,500	154,500	149,300	283,200	5.9	5.7	10.4	6.2	6.4	10.8
	Major Labor Areas															
D	Boston SMSA	1,279,800	1,284,600	1,349,500	1,210,700	1,211,600	1,217,400	69,100	73,000	132,100	5.4	5.7	9.8			
D	Brockton SMSA	75,200	74,600	75,700	70,600	70,100	67,600	4,600	4,500	8,100	6.1	6.0	10.7			
D	Fall River LMA	69,000	68,300	72,000	63,800	63,800	64,300	5,200	4,500	7,700	7.5	6.6	10.7			
E	Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	122,000	121,000	129,800	112,400	112,400	113,300	9,600	8,600	16,500	7.9	7.1	12.7			
D	Lowell LMA	101,800	99,600	102,900	95,400	93,400	91,700	6,400	6,200	11,200	6.3	6.2	10.9			
D	New Bedford LMA	75,200	73,600	78,800	69,000	68,100	68,800	6,200	5,500	10,000	8.2	7.5	12.7			
D	Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	255,200	255,500	271,000	241,200	242,800	244,300	14,000	12,700	26,700	5.5	5.0	9.9			
D	Worcester LMA	182,000	179,200	185,900	172,100	170,400	166,200	9,900	8,800	19,700	5.4	4.9	10.6			
	Other Labor Areas															
	Athol	10,450	9,300	10,560	9,750	8,740	9,290	700	560	1,270	6.7	6.0	12.0			
	Barnstable County	53,450	54,000	54,200	48,650	49,400	45,850	4,800	4,600	8,350	9.0	8.5	15.4			
	Clinton	9,680	9,640	9,770	9,090	9,030	8,600	590	610	1,170	6.1	6.3	12.0			
	Dukes County	4,310	4,340	3,660	4,010	4,030	3,160	300	310	500	7.0	7.1	13.7			
	Fitchburg-Leominster	45,800	45,100	47,200	42,900	42,600	41,500	2,900	2,500	5,700	6.3	5.5	12.1			
	Gardner	19,650	19,250	20,250	18,300	18,100	17,850	1,350	1,150	2,400	6.9	6.0	11.9			
	Gloucester	22,750	22,550	21,100	20,800	21,100	18,700	1,950	1,450	2,400	8.6	6.4	11.4			
	Great Barrington	8,640	8,400	8,070	8,280	8,030	7,600	360	370	470	4.2	4.4	5.8			
	Greenfield	26,750	27,250	27,000	25,250	25,950	24,250	1,500	1,300	2,750	5.6	4.8	10.2			
	Marlboro	43,440	42,660	40,930	41,920	41,280	38,220	1,520	1,380	2,710	3.5	3.2	6.6			
	Milford	18,300	17,950	17,950	17,300	17,000	15,750	1,000	950	2,200	5.5	5.3	12.3			
	Nantucket	2,320	2,350	2,310	2,150	2,210	2,150	170	140	160	7.3	6.0	6.9			
	Newburyport	16,050	16,250	16,220	15,000	15,250	14,300	1,050	1,000	1,920	6.5	6.2	11.8			
	Pittsfield	67,300	66,900	68,500	62,700	63,100	61,700	4,600	3,800	6,800	6.8	5.7	9.9			
	Plymouth	31,240	32,380	29,860	28,580	30,670	25,920	2,660	1,710	3,940	8.5	5.3	13.2			
	Southbridge	14,620	14,560	14,650	13,930	13,910	13,180	690	650	1,470	4.7	4.5	10.0			
	Taunton	28,025	27,675	28,450	26,450	26,450	25,550	1,575	1,225	2,900	5.6	4.4	10.2			
	Ware	6,660	6,680	7,140	6,150	6,180	6,010	510	500	1,130	7.7	7.5	15.8			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

*/ *Area Classification*

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Major labor areas classified in Groups D, E, and F are regarded as areas of "substantial unemployment." Groups A, B, and C range from overall labor shortage to moderate unemployment. The Department of Labor also classifies several hundred other areas when they meet the substantial unemployment criteria. These areas are not placed in specific letter classification categories. Areas of less than 1,500 population may be "certified" by State employment security agencies, upon authorization by the Department, as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment. Such areas are not included in the list of classified areas.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1971 - 1976

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Ad	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	
1971	2,451.0	2,289.0	162.0	6.6	5.9	6.6	5
1972	2,483.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5
1975	2,735.0	2,430.0	305.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8
November	2,752.2	2,461.3	290.9	10.6	7.8	11.4	8
December	2,733.7	2,450.5	283.2	10.4	7.8	10.8	8
1976							
January	2,702.8	2,401.8	301.0	11.1	8.8	10.1	7
February	2,686.4	2,400.6	285.8	10.6	8.7	9.4	7
March	2,680.3	2,417.1	263.2	9.8	8.1	8.8	7
April	2,667.7	2,436.1	231.6	8.7	7.4	8.5	7
May	2,670.6	2,458.5	212.1	7.9	6.7	8.4	7
June	2,694.8	2,473.9	220.9	8.2	8.0	7.8	7
July	2,675.4	2,454.6	220.8	8.3	7.8	7.6	7
August	2,661.6	2,468.6	193.0	7.3	7.6	7.6	7
September	2,644.8	2,472.5	172.3	6.5	7.4	7.3	7
October	2,631.2	2,470.7	160.5	6.1	7.2	7.0	7
November	2,623.8	2,474.5	149.3	5.7	7.4	6.4	8
December	2,630.3	2,475.8	154.5	5.9	7.4	6.2	7

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employ and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

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Vol. 4 **No.** 1 JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS **Data for** JANUARY 1977

The Massachusetts unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) dropped to 7.3 percent in January from 8.1 percent in December. January marked the first month in the past six years that the Massachusetts unemployment rate was down to the level of the national rate. The drop in the state rate from December to January reflected a post-Christmas drop in employment and a seasonal rise in unemployment. Since the changes in both employment and unemployment were smaller than usual for the month, the decline in the seasonally adjusted rate, down from 8.1 percent to 7.3 percent, indicated an improving employment situation.

An estimated 214,600 Massachusetts residents were unemployed in January 1977, nearly 108,000 less than January 1976. In January 1976 the state labor force had included a much larger number of very long-term unemployed claiming benefits under the Federal Supplemental Benefit Program. Employment statewide was estimated to be at the highest January level on record, nearly 53,000 above January 1976 and 105,000 above January 1975. Unemployment was at the lowest level since September 1974 when the economy of the state and nation commenced a sharp decline into the worst recession since World War II.

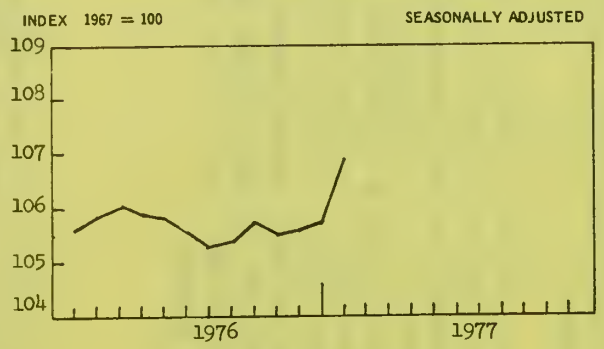
Nonfarm payroll employment totals in the State during January indicated that durable goods manufacturing industries and many of the State's nonmanufacturing sectors have been expanding their work forces over the year. Gains in manufacturing employment have been strongest in establishments producing business machinery, electronic components and supplies, transportation equipment and instruments. Expansion in nonmanufacturing payrolls over the year has occurred in the services sector, wholesale and retail establishments, and in state and local government.

Preliminary estimates of employment and unemployment for 1976 have now been replaced in Massachusetts and 26 other states by final estimates computed by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from the national monthly household survey conducted by the Bureau of the Census. The preliminary estimates, calculated by a mandatory Federal methodology, had been prematurely signaling that the Massachusetts unemployment rate was below the national average from July through December 1976; the final estimates provided by the Department of Labor show that the Massachusetts rate did not drop to the national level until January 1977. The December preliminary unemployment rate of 6.2 percent has been revised upward to 8.1 percent. The 1976 annual average unemployment rate for Massachusetts was estimated at 9.5 percent of the labor force compared with a previously published preliminary estimate of 8.0 percent.

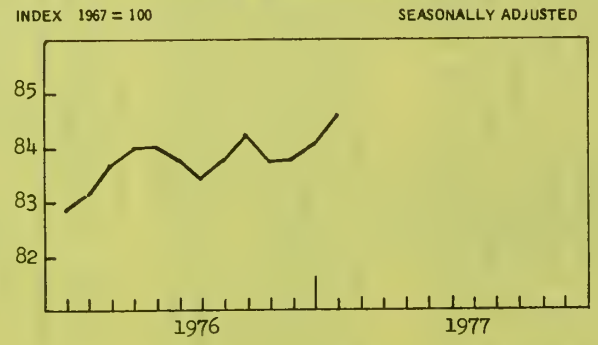
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

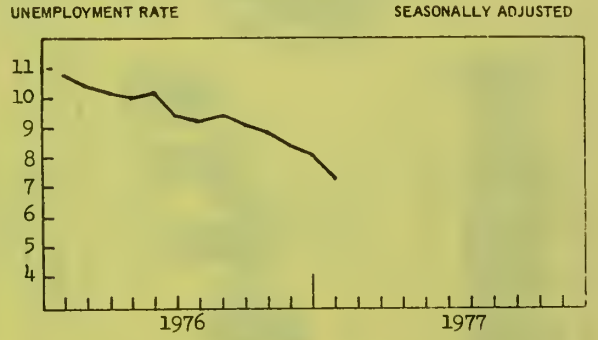
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



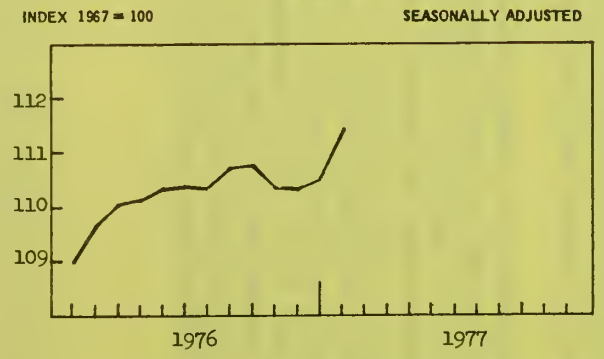
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



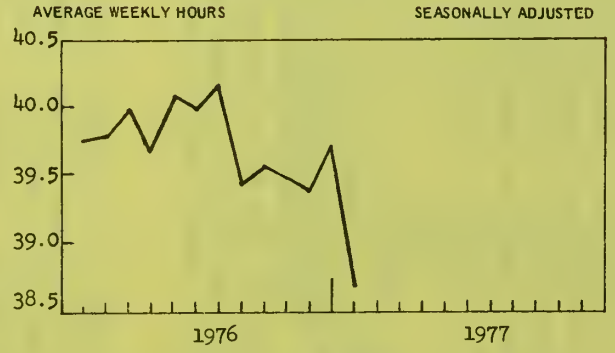
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



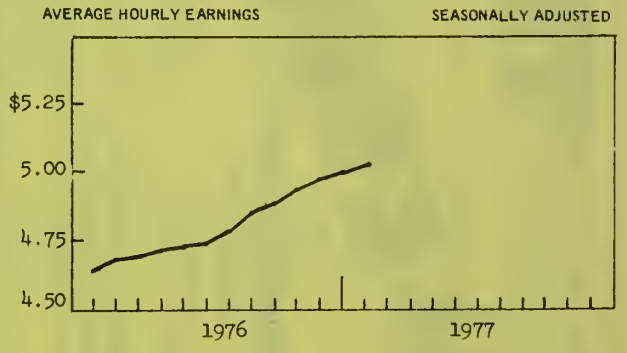
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	January 1977		December 1976		January 1976	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,526.1	88,558.0	2,506.0	88,441.0	2,472.5	86,226.0
The Unemployment Rate	7.3	7.3	8.1	7.8	10.8	7.8
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,319.2	79,465.0	2,294.4	81,074.0	2,290.9	77,334.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	591.1	18,983.0	588.1	19,130.0	580.3	18,495.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	38.6	39.7	39.7	40.0	39.7	40.0
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.01	$5.44	$5.00	$5.42	$4.60	$5.02

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
		Jan. 1977	Dec. R/ 1976	Jan. R/ 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. R/ 1976	Jan. R/ 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. R/ 1976	Jan. R/ 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976	Jan. 1977	Dec. 1976	Jan. 1976
	Massachusetts	2,691,400	2,733,000	2,746,500	2,476,800	2,525,000	2,424,100	214,600	208,000	322,400	8.0	7.6	11.7	7.3	8.1	10.8
	Major Labor Areas															
D	Boston SMSA	1,307,100	1,330,300	1,343,300	1,212,100	1,240,100	1,198,400	95,000	90,200	144,900	7.3	6.8	10.8			
D	Brockton SMSA	76,400	77,700	76,700	69,800	71,400	67,400	6,600	6,300	9,300	8.6	8.1	12.1			
D	Fall River LMA	71,300	72,100	74,500	64,400	65,400	65,700	6,900	6,700	8,800	9.7	9.3	11.8			
E	Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	123,200	126,800	131,200	111,100	113,800	111,400	12,100	13,000	19,800	9.8	10.3	15.1			
D	Lowell LMA	102,400	105,200	105,900	93,300	96,400	91,900	9,100	8,800	14,000	8.9	8.4	13.2			
D	New Bedford LMA	78,100	78,400	80,900	69,100	69,900	68,300	9,000	8,500	12,600	11.5	10.8	15.6			
D	Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	263,400	264,100	269,100	244,500	244,800	237,800	18,900	19,300	31,300	7.2	7.3	11.6			
D	Worcester LMA	184,600	188,200	188,700	171,600	174,700	167,300	13,000	13,500	21,400	7.0	7.2	11.3			
	Other Labor Areas															
	Athol	10,600	10,860	10,810	9,730	9,890	9,380	870	970	1,430	8.2	8.9	13.2			
	Barnstable County	56,850	56,000	54,650	48,000	49,400	45,000	8,850	6,600	9,650	15.6	11.8	17.7			
	Clinton	9,930	10,030	9,600	9,130	9,220	8,460	800	810	1,140	8.1	8.1	11.9			
	Dukes County	4,130	4,480	4,080	3,530	4,070	3,420	600	410	660	14.5	9.2	16.2			
	Fitchburg-Leominster	47,400	47,400	49,400	43,700	43,500	43,000	3,700	3,900	6,400	7.8	8.2	13.0			
	Gardner	19,600	20,500	20,600	17,900	18,600	17,900	1,700	1,900	2,700	8.7	9.3	13.1			
	Gloucester	22,400	23,750	20,700	19,700	21,100	17,600	2,700	2,650	3,100	12.0	11.2	15.0			
	Great Barrington	9,040	8,960	8,850	8,530	8,410	8,260	510	550	590	5.6	6.1	6.7			
	Greenfield	27,400	27,800	27,450	25,150	25,600	24,200	2,250	2,200	3,250	8.2	7.9	11.8			
	Marlboro	45,450	46,160	41,370	43,270	44,050	38,200	2,180	2,110	3,170	4.8	4.6	7.7			
	Milford	18,850	19,000	19,400	17,450	17,600	16,850	1,400	1,400	2,550	7.4	7.4	13.1			
	Nantucket	3,270	2,420	2,190	3,000	2,180	2,000	270	240	190	8.3	9.9	8.7			
	Newburyport	16,550	16,650	16,550	15,000	15,200	14,300	1,550	1,450	2,250	9.4	8.7	13.6			
	Pittsfield	68,500	70,200	68,300	63,000	63,600	60,200	5,500	6,600	8,100	8.0	9.4	11.9			
	Plymouth	31,650	32,670	31,070	27,380	29,010	26,060	4,270	3,660	5,010	13.5	11.2	16.1			
	Southbridge	15,030	15,090	15,300	14,110	14,140	13,670	920	950	1,630	6.1	6.3	10.7			
	Taunton	28,790	29,030	29,180	26,490	26,860	25,590	2,300	2,170	3,590	8.0	7.5	12.3			
	Ware	7,150	6,950	7,330	6,380	6,250	5,940	770	700	1,390	10.8	10.1	19.0			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

*/ *Area Classification*

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Major labor areas classified in Groups D, E, and F are regarded as areas of "substantial unemployment." Groups A, B, and C range from overall labor shortage to moderate unemployment. The Department of Labor also classifies several hundred other areas when they meet the substantial unemployment criteria. These areas are not placed in specific letter classification categories. Areas of less than 1,500 population may be "certified" by State employment security agencies, upon authorization by the Department, as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment. Such areas are not included in the list of classified areas.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1972-1977

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Adju	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U
1972	2,481.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.
1975	2,730.0	2,426.0	304.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.
1976	2,762.0	2,499.0	263.0	9.5	7.7	9.5	7.
January	2,702.8	2,401.8	301.0	11.1	8.8	10.1	7.
February	2,686.4	2,400.6	285.8	10.6	8.7	9.4	7.
March	2,680.3	2,417.1	263.2	9.8	8.1	8.8	7.
April	2,667.7	2,436.1	231.6	8.7	7.4	8.5	7.
May	2,670.6	2,458.5	212.1	7.9	6.7	8.4	7.
June	2,694.8	2,473.9	220.9	8.2	8.0	7.8	7.
July	2,675.4	2,454.6	220.8	8.3	7.8	7.6	7.
August	2,661.6	2,468.6	193.0	7.3	7.6	7.6	7.
September	2,644.8	2,472.5	172.3	6.5	7.4	7.3	7.
October	2,631.2	2,470.7	160.5	6.1	7.2	7.0	7.
November	2,623.8	2,474.5	149.3	5.7	7.4	6.4	8.
December	2,733.0	2,525.0	208.0	7.6	7.4	8.1	7.
1977							
January	2,691.4	2,476.8	214.6	8.0	8.3	7.3	7.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

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Vol. 4 **No.** 2 **Data for** MARCH 1977

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment in Massachusetts declined slightly during March to a seasonally adjusted rate of 6.7 percent of the civilian labor force, down from February's rate of 6.8 percent. The comparable rate for the nation was also down slightly from 7.5 percent in February to 7.3 percent in March.

The number of Massachusetts residents unemployed during March fell below the 200,000 level for the first time since November 1974. The total of 198,300 jobless individuals represents a 35 percent decrease from the 304,500 unemployed one year ago. In addition, 20 percent fewer continued claims for total unemployment compensation were filed under the state's regular benefit program and the number of continued claims for benefits under the Federal and Federal-State extended programs has decreased by fifty percent since March 1976.

The State wage and salary nonagricultural employment series, which counts jobs not employees, has been revised from a 1975 to a 1976 benchmark. The 1976 nonagricultural employment estimates were based on a monthly sample of employing establishments in the Commonwealth. When all employers subject to the Massachusetts Employment Security Law have filed their employment and wage reports for 1976, the nonagricultural payroll estimates developed by the sample are revised (benchmarked) to reflect this more complete count of jobs in the state.

The 1976 benchmark series reveals that the number of nonagricultural jobs in the state has increased by 58,100 from March 1976 to March 1977. Approximately one-third of the increase was in the manufacturing sector and two-thirds in nonmanufacturing. Most of the improvement in manufacturing was in durable goods. Led by strong advances in transportation equipment, instruments and nonelectrical machinery, seven of nine durable goods industries registered job gains. The performance in the nondurable goods division was one of stability mixed with slight increases except for the leather industry which declined. The gain in the nonmanufacturing sector was provided by the state's two largest industries, wholesale and retail trade and services. They accounted for a combined employment gain of 39,000 jobs over the year.

There was an increase of 10,200 jobs over the February 1977 level. All nonmanufacturing industries, with the exception of state and local government, improved for a total increase of 9,100 jobs. The manufacturing sector showed a small improvement with gains slightly offsetting losses for an increase of 1,100 jobs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial	Persistent	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
				March 1977	Feb. R/ 1977	March R/ 1976	March 1977	Feb. R/ 1977	March R/ 1976	March 1977	Feb. R/ 1977	March R/ 1976	Mar. 1977	Feb. 1977	Mar. 1976	Mar. 1977	Feb. 1977	Mar. 1976
			Massachusetts	2,696,500	2,687,800	2,763,300	2,498,200	2,483,000	2,458,800	198,300	204,800	304,500	7.4	7.6	11.0	6.7	6.8	10.1
			Major Labor Areas															
D			Boston SMSA	1,311,400	1,300,000	1,352,500	1,224,300	1,209,700	1,215,700	87,100	90,300	136,800	6.6	6.9	10.1			
D			Brockton SMSA	77,100	77,100	77,500	70,700	70,600	68,600	6,400	6,500	8,900	8.3	8.4	11.5			
D			Fall River LMA	70,900	71,300	74,100	64,500	64,600	66,100	6,400	6,700	8,000	9.0	9.4	10.8			
E			Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	125,200	124,900	131,800	113,300	112,800	113,200	11,900	12,100	18,600	9.5	9.7	14.1			
D			Lowell LMA	103,000	104,100	106,100	94,800	95,700	93,300	8,200	8,400	12,800	8.0	8.1	12.1			
D			New Bedford LMA	77,500	77,700	80,900	69,900	69,600	69,600	7,600	8,100	11,300	9.8	10.4	14.0			
D			Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	265,500	265,200	271,600	247,500	247,200	243,000	18,000	18,000	28,600	6.8	6.8	10.5			
D			Worcester LMA	183,600	183,000	188,900	171,900	171,400	167,500	11,700	11,600	21,400	6.4	6.3	11.3			
			Other Labor Areas															
			Athol	10,650	10,590	10,810	9,860	9,750	9,390	790	840	1,420	7.4	7.9	13.1			
			Barnstable County	56,400	56,000	55,000	48,700	47,900	45,700	7,700	8,100	9,300	13.7	14.5	16.9			
			Clinton	10,160	10,130	9,920	9,370	9,270	8,680	790	860	1,240	7.8	8.5	12.5			
			Dukes County	4,190	4,150	4,160	3,560	3,490	3,490	630	660	670	15.0	15.9	16.1			
			Fitchburg-Leominster	47,400	47,600	49,800	43,700	43,800	43,800	3,700	3,800	6,000	7.8	8.0	12.0			
			Gardner	19,100	19,450	20,350	17,600	17,800	17,650	1,500	1,650	2,700	7.9	8.5	13.3			
			Gloucester	22,350	22,300	21,000	20,050	19,900	18,200	2,300	2,400	2,800	10.3	10.8	13.3			
			Great Barrington	8,730	8,920	8,560	8,220	8,410	7,920	510	510	640	5.8	5.7	7.5			
			Greenfield	27,800	27,300	28,350	25,650	25,100	25,150	2,150	2,200	3,200	7.7	8.1	11.3			
			Marlboro	43,800	45,350	42,900	41,750	43,200	39,800	2,050	2,150	3,100	4.7	4.7	7.2			
			Milford	18,650	18,550	19,300	17,350	17,150	16,850	1,300	1,400	2,450	7.0	7.5	12.7			
			Nantucket	2,390	2,400	2,200	2,110	2,100	1,990	280	300	210	11.7	12.5	9.6			
			Newburyport	16,610	16,590	16,560	15,100	15,030	14,310	1,510	1,560	2,250	9.1	9.4	13.6			
			Pittsfield	68,700	68,800	67,700	63,100	63,100	60,100	5,600	5,700	7,600	8.2	8.3	11.2			
			Plymouth	31,300	31,660	31,580	27,730	27,600	26,560	3,570	4,060	5,020	11.4	12.8	15.9			
			Southbridge	14,960	15,050	15,250	14,070	14,120	13,700	890	930	1,550	5.9	6.2	10.2			
			Taunton	28,690	28,760	29,160	26,530	26,520	25,810	2,160	2,240	3,350	7.5	7.8	11.5			
			Ware	6,900	7,120	7,280	6,240	6,400	6,050	660	720	1,230	9.6	10.1	16.9			

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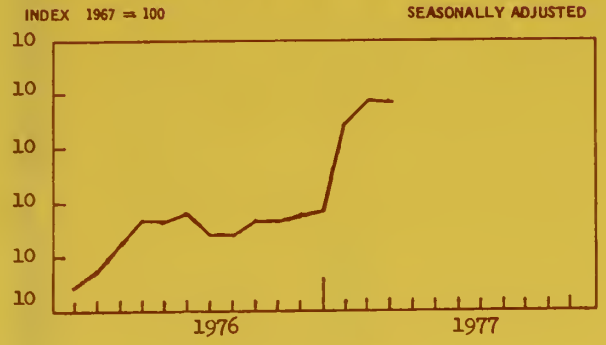
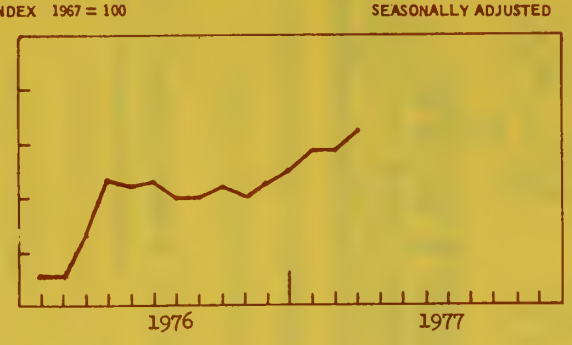
Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

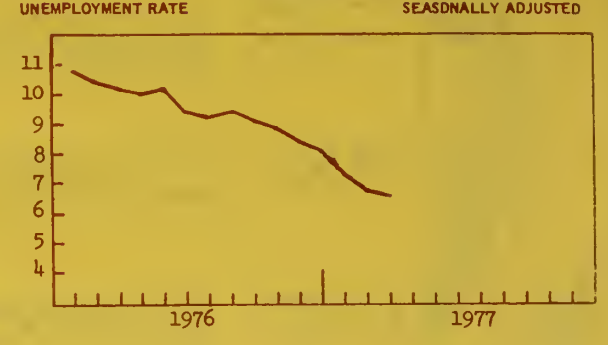
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



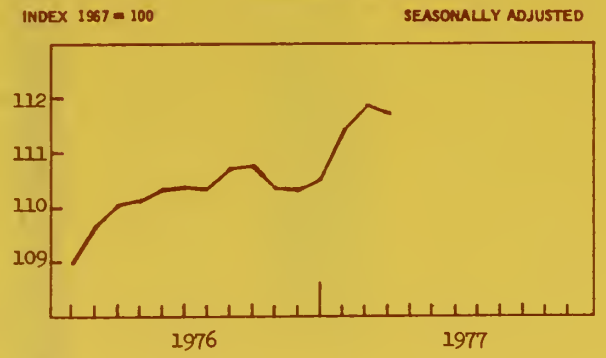
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



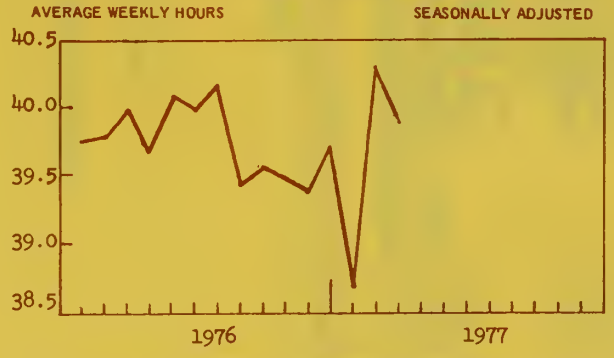
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



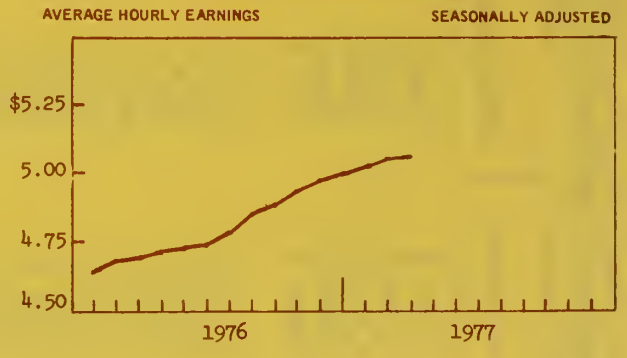
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	MARCH 1977		FEBRUARY 1977		MARCH 1976	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,536.7	89,475.0	2,539.1	88,962.0	2,496.5	86,845.0
The Unemployment Rate	6.7	7.3	6.8	7.5	10.1	7.5
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,363.5	81,304.0	2,362.2	80,816.0	2,303.8	78,980.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	607.7	19,383.0	604.6	19,217.0	587.2	18,897.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.9	40.3	40.3	40.2	39.9	40.3
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.03	$5.48	$5.02	$5.43	$4.67	$5.07

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000's) 1972 - 1977

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Adju	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.
1972	2,481.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
1975	2,730.0	2,426.0	304.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.5
1976	2,762.0	2,499.0	263.0	9.5	7.7	9.5	7.7
February	2,479.5	2,432.5	316.9	11.5	8.7	10.3	7.6
March	2,763.3	2,458.8	304.5	11.0	8.1	10.1	7.5
April	2,766.2	2,485.2	281.0	10.2	7.4	10.0	7.5
May	2,782.7	2,515.0	267.7	9.6	6.7	10.1	7.3
June	2,806.5	2,530.7	275.8	9.8	8.0	9.4	7.5
July	2,786.8	2,511.1	275.8	9.9	7.8	9.2	7.8
August	2,775.3	2,525.3	250.0	9.0	7.6	9.4	7.9
September	2,760.2	2,529.4	230.8	8.4	7.4	9.1	7.8
October	2,742.7	2,524.9	217.8	7.9	7.2	8.9	7.9
November	2,731.4	2,526.2	205.3	7.5	7.4	8.3	8.0
December	2,733.0	2,524.9	208.0	7.6	7.4	8.1	7.8
1977							
January	2,690.5	2,476.0	214.5	8.0	8.3	7.3	7.3
February	2,687.8	2,483.0	204.8	7.6	8.5	6.8	7.5
March	2,696.5	2,498.2	198.3	7.4	7.9	6.7	7.3

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employme and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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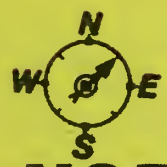

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

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Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 4 **No.** 4 **Data for** APRIL 1977

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

The Massachusetts seasonally adjusted rate of unemployment for April was 6.4 percent of the labor force, compared with 6.7 percent in March. The rate has continuously moved downward since December 1976 and in five months has fallen 1.9 percentage points from 8.3 percent. The National rate was 7.0 percent in April down from 7.3 percent in March.

There were an estimated 176,700 totally unemployed Massachusetts residents in April, a decline of 22,200 from March and over 100,000 from April 1976. This large over-the-year decrease is reflected in the decline in continued claims for benefits under both the state regular unemployment compensation program and the extended benefits programs with respective volumes running 20 and 43 percent below year ago levels. Total employment statewide increased by 29,300 during April to 2,540,300. This, as in March, is a record level for the month.

Nonagricultural employment of wage and salary workers increased by 27,100 in April to 2,351,200 and is now 51,300 above a year ago. Nearly ninety percent of the month's gain was in the nonmanufacturing sector. Wholesale and retail trade, services, and construction registered seasonal gains. Eating and drinking establishments accounted for major job gains in trade while increases in hotels, lodging, amusement and recreation boosted service industry employment. Construction employment experienced a 12.6 percent increase in the month, but is still slightly below the depressed year ago level.

Manufacturing employment increased 2,900 over the March level to 607,300 with a 3,800 job increase in durable goods offsetting a 900 decrease in nondurables. Fabricated metals increased by 1,900 jobs or 3.8 percent. Other durables exhibited minor gains except for primary metals which remained stable. Durable goods manufacturing employment is 5 percent higher than a year ago but nondurable goods employment is 0.4 percent lower.

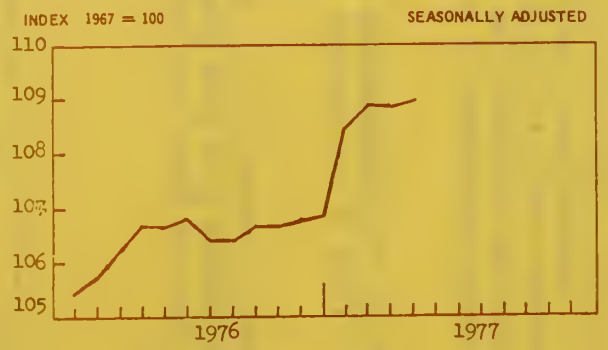
Unemployment rates for all eight major metropolitan areas in the Commonwealth declined in April. The Worcester labor area was the lowest with a rate of 5.4 percent and the New Bedford labor area the highest at 8.7 percent.

The data for April 1977 and previous years have been slightly revised due to the updating of the State's nonagricultural wage and salary employment to a 1976 benchmark. The newly revised series will be available upon request from the Labor Area Research Department, Massachusetts Division of Employment Security.

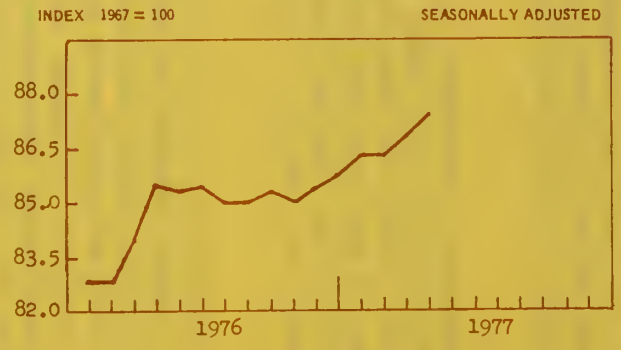
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

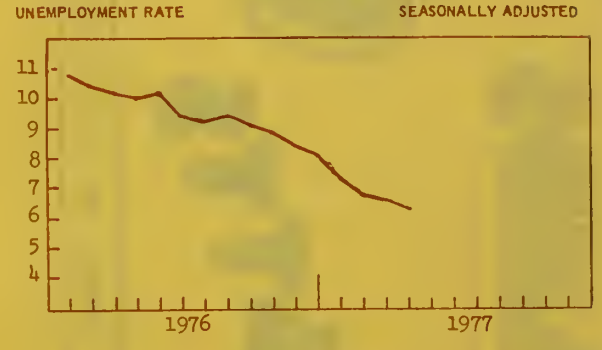
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



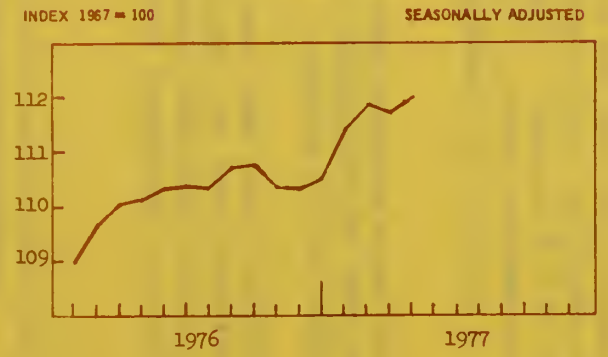
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



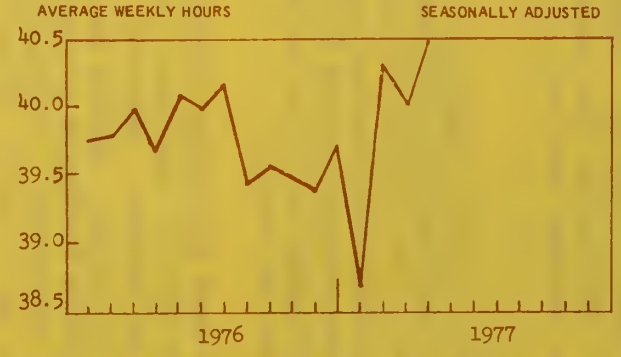
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



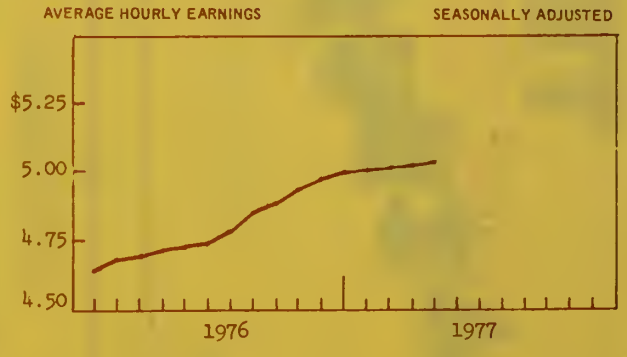
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	APRIL 1977		MARCH 1977		APRIL 1976	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,552.9	90,023.0	2,549.7	89,475.0	2,497.4	87,329.0
The Unemployment Rate	6.4	7.0	6.7	7.3	10.0	7.5
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,365.4	81,644.0	2,365.0	81,372.0	2,313.4	79,312.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	612.1	19,481.0	608.9	19,399.0	597.4	19,008.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.5	40.2	40.0	40.4	39.6	39.4
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.05	$5.52	$5.03	$5.49	$4.70	$5.07

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial	Persistent	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
				April 1977	March 1977 R	April 1976 R	April 1977	March 1977 R	April 1976 R	April 1977	March 1977 R	April 1976 R	Apr. 1977	Mar. 1977	Apr. 1976	Apr. 1977	Mar. 1977	Apr. 1976
			Massachusetts	2,717,000	2,709,900	2,763,300	2,540,300	2,511,000	2,483,000	176,700	198,900	280,300	6.5	7.3	10.1	6.4	6.7	10.0
			Major Labor Areas															
D			Boston SMSA	1,314,400	1,317,400	1,356,000	1,233,700	1,229,200	1,226,600	80,700	88,200	129,400	6.1	6.7	9.5			
D			Brockton SMSA	75,600	75,300	75,700	69,900	68,900	67,300	5,700	6,400	8,400	7.6	8.5	11.1			
D			Fall River LMA	74,500	73,100	74,700	68,900	66,700	67,500	5,600	6,400	7,200	7.5	8.7	9.6			
E			Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	127,200	127,600	132,500	117,100	115,900	115,600	10,100	11,700	16,900	8.0	9.2	12.8			
D			Lowell LMA	104,300	104,500	105,800	97,500	96,400	94,900	6,800	8,100	10,900	6.5	7.8	10.3			
D			New Bedford LMA	79,600	78,700	79,500	72,700	71,200	69,900	6,900	7,500	9,600	8.7	9.6	12.1			
D			Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	265,500	264,800	267,400	250,000	247,000	240,700	15,500	17,800	26,700	5.8	6.7	10.1			
D			Worcester LMA	189,600	189,300	191,500	179,300	177,600	172,400	10,300	11,700	19,100	5.4	6.2	10.0			
			Other Labor Areas															
			Athol	10,660	10,580	10,660	9,960	9,800	9,410	700	780	1,250	6.5	7.4	11.7			
			Barnstable County	59,250	56,100	57,700	53,300	48,450	49,950	5,950	7,650	7,750	10.1	13.6	13.5			
			Clinton	9,820	10,090	9,970	9,060	9,310	8,820	760	780	1,150	7.7	7.7	11.5			
			Dukes County	4,750	4,200	4,440	4,270	3,560	4,020	480	640	420	10.2	15.3	9.5			
			Fitchburg-Leominster	46,800	47,000	48,200	43,500	43,400	42,700	3,300	3,600	5,500	7.1	7.7	11.4			
			Gardner	18,950	18,950	20,000	17,650	17,450	17,550	1,300	1,500	2,450	7.0	7.8	12.2			
			Gloucester	23,200	22,200	22,250	21,350	19,900	19,850	1,850	2,300	2,400	8.1	10.3	10.7			
			Great Barrington	8,700	8,680	8,560	8,250	8,170	7,950	450	510	610	5.2	5.9	7.1			
			Greenfield	27,700	27,600	27,600	25,850	25,450	24,650	1,850	2,150	2,950	6.6	7.8	10.7			
			Marlboro	44,450	43,450	42,400	42,550	41,450	39,550	1,900	2,000	2,850	4.3	4.6	6.7			
			Milford	18,700	18,550	18,950	17,500	17,250	16,700	1,200	1,300	2,250	6.4	7.0	11.8			
			Nantucket	2,640	2,380	2,430	2,410	2,100	2,250	230	280	180	8.8	11.6	7.5			
			Newburyport	16,610	16,490	16,400	15,260	15,000	14,390	1,350	1,490	2,010	8.1	9.1	12.3			
			Pittsfield	68,500	68,300	67,500	63,300	62,700	60,300	5,200	5,600	7,200	7.6	8.2	10.7			
			Plymouth	31,260	31,170	32,150	28,510	27,390	27,650	2,750	3,780	4,500	8.8	12.1	14.0			
			Southbridge	14,920	14,900	14,800	14,140	14,000	13,400	780	900	1,400	5.3	5.9	9.5			
			Taunton	29,850	28,550	30,150	27,940	26,410	27,180	1,910	2,140	2,970	6.4	7.5	9.8			
			Ware	6,930	6,860	7,200	6,340	6,200	6,010	590	660	1,190	8.5	9.6	16.6			

RATES CALCULATED FROM UNROUNDED FIGURES

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

* *Area Classification*

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Major labor areas classified in Groups D, E, and F are regarded as areas of "substantial unemployment." Groups A, B, and C range from overall labor shortage to moderate unemployment. The Department of Labor also classifies several hundred other areas when they meet the substantial unemployment criteria. These areas are not placed in specific letter classification categories. Areas of less than 1,500 population may be "certified" by State employment security agencies, upon authorization by the Department, as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment. Such areas are not included in the list of classified areas.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1972 - 1977

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Adju	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.
1972	2,481.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
1975	2,730.0	2,426.0	304.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.5
1976	2,762.0	2,499.0	263.0	9.5	7.7	9.5	7.7
March	2,745.8	2,441.4	304.4	11.1	8.1	10.1	7.5
April	2,763.3	2,483.0	280.3	10.1	7.4	10.0	7.5
May	2,784.0	2,515.3	268.7	9.7	6.7	10.1	7.3
June	2,814.5	2,539.6	274.9	9.8	8.0	9.4	7.5
July	2,794.7	2,520.1	274.6	9.8	7.8	9.2	7.8
August	2,782.3	2,531.9	250.4	9.0	7.6	9.4	7.9
September	2,767.0	2,536.0	231.0	8.3	7.4	9.1	7.8
October	2,750.4	2,533.0	217.4	7.9	7.2	8.9	7.9
November	2,740.3	2,534.7	205.6	7.5	7.4	8.3	8.0
December	2,743.6	2,535.0	208.6	7.6	7.4	8.1	7.8
1977							
January	2,702.3	2,486.8	215.5	8.0	8.3	7.3	7.3
February	2,700.0	2,494.2	205.8	7.6	8.5	6.8	7.5
March	2,709.9	2,511.0	198.9	7.3	7.9	6.7	7.3
April	2,717.0	2,540.3	176.7	6.5	6.9	6.4	7.0

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employm and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO
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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

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Vol. 4 **No.** 5 **Data for** MAY 1977

MAY HIGHLIGHTS

The Massachusetts seasonally adjusted May unemployment rate remained unchanged from April at 6.4 percent of the labor force. The May national rate declined slightly to 6.9 percent from 7.0 percent in April.

The May estimate of 163,600 totally unemployed Massachusetts residents was an 8 percent decrease from the April level. As this decrease equaled the expected seasonal decline in total unemployment for May the result was an unchanged unemployment rate. Continued claims under the state's regular benefit program were at the lowest May level since 1973 and were 22 percent below the year ago level. Total employment in Massachusetts increased to 2,561,200 during May.

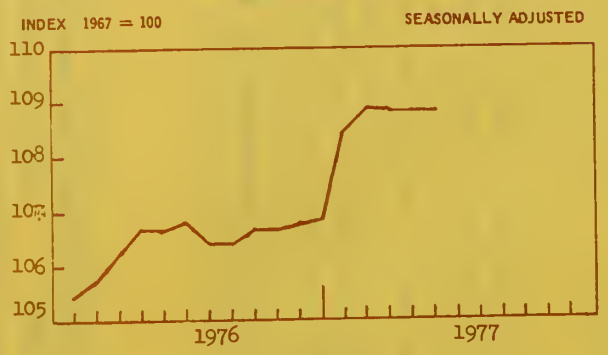
Nonagricultural wage and salary employment was 2,362,900 in May, an increase of 13,200 jobs over April and 49,000 jobs over the year ago level. Nonmanufacturing accounted for 75 percent of the monthly increase with construction, wholesale and retail trade, and services showing seasonal gains for the second consecutive month. Construction and transportation, communications, and utilities were below year ago levels. Manufacturing had a small gain of 3,300 jobs. Durable goods employment was up 1,300 with nonelectrical machinery and transportation showing the largest increases while electrical equipment remained stable and only furniture declined. Nondurable goods employment increased 2,000 with the food and paper industries registering lower levels. Nonmanufacturing employment was 2 percent above the May 1976 level. In manufacturing, durable goods employment is 4.4 percent above its year ago level while nondurable goods jobs show only marginal improvement.

Monthly labor force data and resulting unemployment rates for all states are estimated by means of a methodology regulated by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. The United States labor force data and resulting unemployment rate are obtained from a national monthly household survey called the Current Population Survey. After the completion of the year, all state monthly rates are revised to reflect the more accurate annualized data obtained monthly for each state during the year from the Current Population Survey. These annual revisions for Massachusetts and many other states were substantial in both 1975 and 1976 and we believe that the Massachusetts rate for 1977 may be understated as well. The Bureau of Labor Statistics, Massachusetts (DES) and other states are currently investigating improvements in the existing methodology and alternative methodologies to minimize the extent of future revisions.

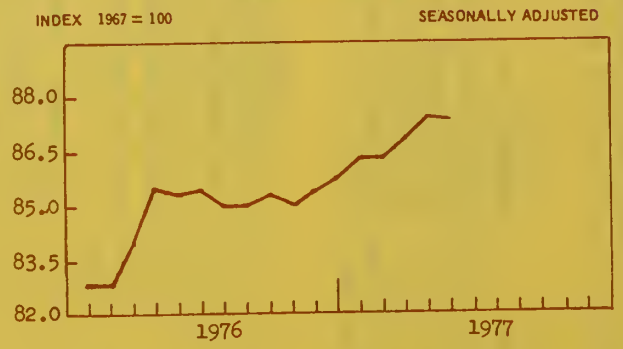
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

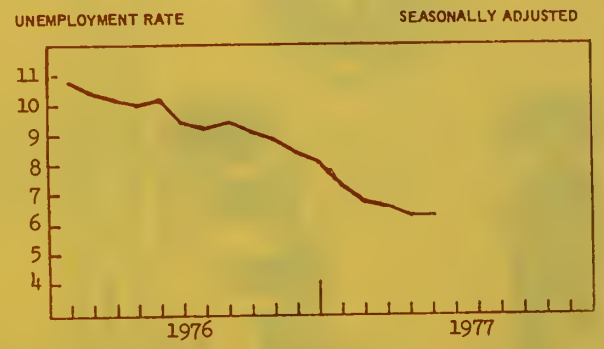
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



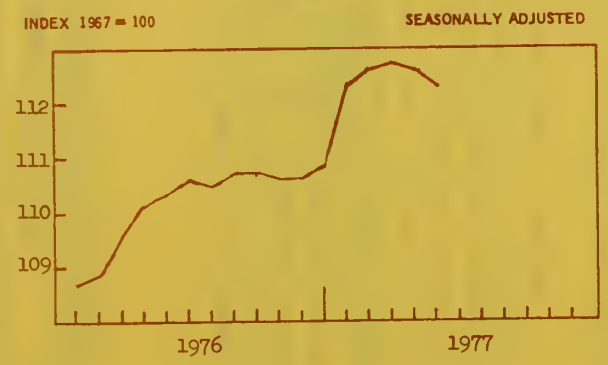
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



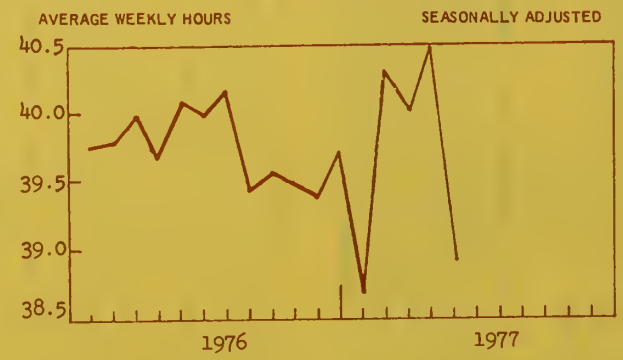
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



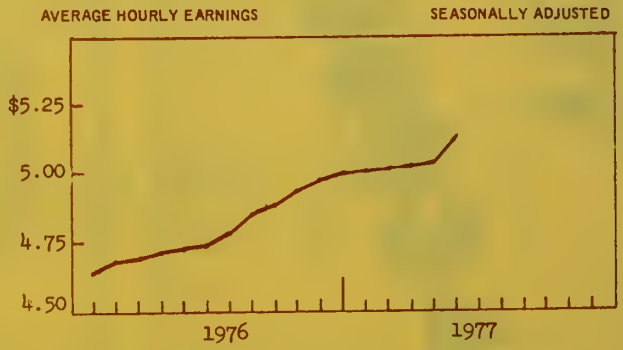
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	MAY 1977		APRIL 1977		MAY 1976	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,548.5	90,408.0	2,553.6	90,023.0	2,502.9	87,640.0
The Unemployment Rate	6.4	6.9	6.4	7.0	10.1	7.3
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,362.6	81,792.0	2,363.9	81,605.0	2,313.3	79,319.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	611.0	19,547.0	611.6	19,481.0	596.1	19,000.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	38.9	40.4	40.5	40.2	40.0	40.3
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.11	$5.57	$5.05	$5.52	$4.72	$5.12

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial	Persistent	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
				May 1977	Apr. 1977	May 1976 R/	May 1977	Apr. 1977	May 1976 R/	May 1977	Apr. 1977	May 1976 R/	May 1977	Apr. 1977	May 1976	May 1977	Apr. 1977	May 1976
			Massachusetts	2,724,800	2,715,700	2,784,000	2,561,200	2,539,000	2,515,300	163,600	176,700	268,700	6.0	6.5	9.7	6.4	6.4	10.1
			Major Labor Areas															
			Boston SMSA	1,319,500	1,314,400	1,368,200	1,243,700	1,233,700	1,242,100	75,800	80,700	126,100	5.7	6.1	9.2			
			Brockton SMSA	75,100	75,600	75,100	69,900	69,900	67,200	5,200	5,700	7,900	7.0	7.6	10.5			
			Fall River LMA	74,100	74,500	74,500	69,400	68,900	67,700	4,700	5,600	6,800	6.4	7.5	9.2			
			Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	127,700	127,200	132,500	118,200	117,100	116,300	9,500	10,100	16,200	7.4	8.0	12.2			
			Lowell LMA	104,700	104,300	106,100	98,000	97,500	95,400	6,700	6,800	10,700	6.4	6.5	10.1			
			New Bedford LMA	79,300	79,600	79,000	73,300	72,700	70,200	6,000	6,900	8,800	7.6	8.7	11.1			
			Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	264,800	265,500	269,500	250,500	250,000	244,300	14,300	15,500	25,200	5.4	5.8	9.4			
			Worcester LMA	187,700	189,600	191,500	178,300	179,300	173,300	9,400	10,300	18,200	5.0	5.4	9.5			
			Other Labor Areas															
			Athol	10,740	10,660	10,750	10,070	9,960	9,560	670	700	1,190	6.2	6.5	11.0			
			Barnstable County	62,000	59,250	60,600	56,900	53,300	53,600	5,100	5,950	7,000	8.2	10.0	11.6			
			Clinton	9,490	9,820	10,140	8,570	9,060	9,010	920	760	1,130	9.7	7.7	11.1			
			Dukes County	5,080	4,750	4,880	4,770	4,270	4,480	310	480	400	6.2	10.2	8.3			
			Fitchburg-Leominster	46,300	46,800	48,200	43,300	43,500	43,100	3,000	3,300	5,100	6.5	7.1	10.7			
			Gardner	18,850	18,950	20,300	17,600	17,650	17,950	1,250	1,300	2,350	6.7	7.0	11.5			
			Gloucester	23,450	23,200	23,100	21,800	21,350	20,650	1,650	1,850	2,450	7.0	8.1	10.6			
			Great Barrington	8,780	8,700	8,630	8,350	8,250	8,050	430	450	580	4.9	5.2	6.7			
			Greenfield	27,950	27,700	27,750	26,350	25,850	25,000	1,600	1,850	2,750	5.7	6.6	9.9			
			Marlboro	45,000	44,450	42,750	43,350	42,550	40,100	1,650	1,900	2,650	3.7	4.3	6.1			
			Milford	18,750	18,700	19,750	17,650	17,500	17,600	1,100	1,200	2,150	5.9	6.4	10.8			
			Nantucket	3,050	2,640	2,870	2,860	2,410	2,710	190	230	160	6.1	8.8	5.6			
			Newburyport	16,620	16,610	16,370	15,380	15,260	14,570	1,240	1,350	1,800	7.5	8.1	11.0			
			Pittsfield	68,200	68,500	67,600	63,600	63,300	60,800	4,600	5,200	6,800	6.8	7.6	10.0			
			Plymouth	32,850	31,260	32,410	30,200	28,510	28,190	2,650	2,750	4,220	8.1	8.8	13.0			
			Southbridge	15,140	14,920	15,150	14,390	14,140	13,810	750	780	1,340	4.9	5.3	8.9			
			Taunton	29,610	29,850	30,110	27,970	27,940	27,330	1,640	1,910	2,780	5.5	6.4	9.2			
			Ware	7,000	6,930	7,190	6,500	6,340	6,070	500	590	1,120	7.2	8.5	15.6			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

*/ *Area Classification*

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Major labor areas classified in Groups D, E, and F are regarded as areas of "substantial unemployment." Groups A, B, and C range from overall labor shortage to moderate unemployment. The Department of Labor also classifies several hundred other areas when they meet the substantial unemployment criteria. These areas are not placed in specific letter classification categories. Areas of less than 1,500 population may be "certified" by State employment security agencies, upon authorization by the Department, as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment. Such areas are not included in the list of classified areas.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1972 - 1977

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Adju	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U
1972	2,481.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.
1975	2,730.0	2,426.0	304.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.
1976	2,762.0	2,499.0	263.0	9.5	7.7	9.5	7.
April	2,763.3	2,483.0	280.3	10.1	7.4	10.0	7.
May	2,784.0	2,515.3	268.7	9.7	6.7	10.1	7.
June	2,814.5	2,539.6	274.9	9.8	8.0	9.4	7.
July	2,794.7	2,520.1	274.6	9.8	7.8	9.2	7.
August	2,782.3	2,531.9	250.4	9.0	7.6	9.4	7.
September	2,767.0	2,536.0	231.0	8.3	7.4	9.1	7.
October	2,750.4	2,533.0	217.4	7.9	7.2	8.9	7.
November	2,740.3	2,534.7	205.6	7.5	7.4	8.3	8.
December	2,743.6	2,535.0	208.6	7.6	7.4	8.1	7.
1977							
January	2,702.3	2,486.8	215.5	8.0	8.3	7.3	7.
February	2,700.0	2,494.2	205.8	7.6	8.5	6.8	7.
March	2,709.9	2,511.0	198.9	7.3	7.9	6.7	7.
April	2,715.7	2,539.0	176.7	6.5	6.9	6.4	7.
May	2,724.8	2,561.2	163.6	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employ and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1972 - 1977

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Adjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
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1975	2,730.0	2,426.0	304.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.5
1976	2,762.0	2,499.0	263.0	9.5	7.7	9.5	7.7
May	2,784.0	2,515.3	268.7	9.7	6.7	10.2	7.3
June	2,814.5	2,539.6	274.9	9.8	8.0	9.4	7.5
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December	2,743.6	2,535.0	208.6	7.6	7.4	8.1	7.8
1977							
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February	2,700.0	2,494.2	205.8	7.6	8.5	6.8	7.5
March	2,709.9	2,511.0	198.9	7.3	7.9	6.7	7.3
April	2,715.7	2,539.0	176.7	6.5	6.9	6.4	7.0
May	2,726.4	2,562.8	163.6	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.9
June	2,759.6	2,584.5	175.1	6.3	7.5	6.1	7.1

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employment and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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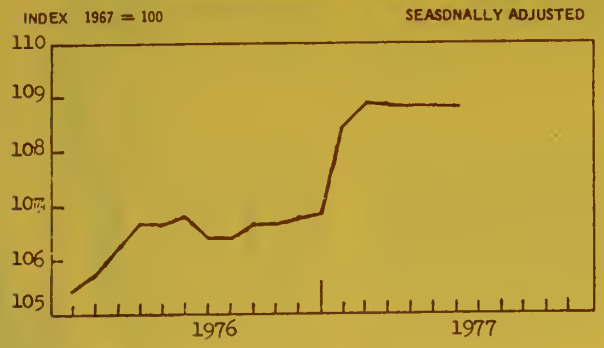
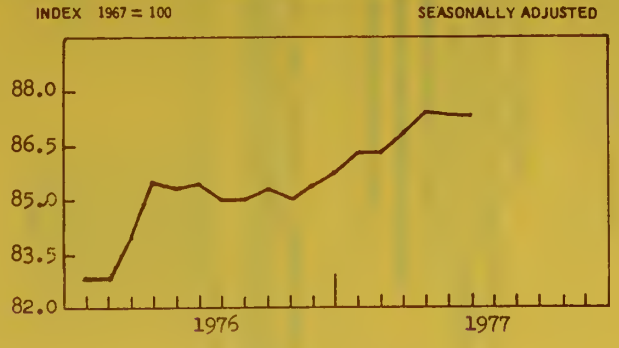
Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

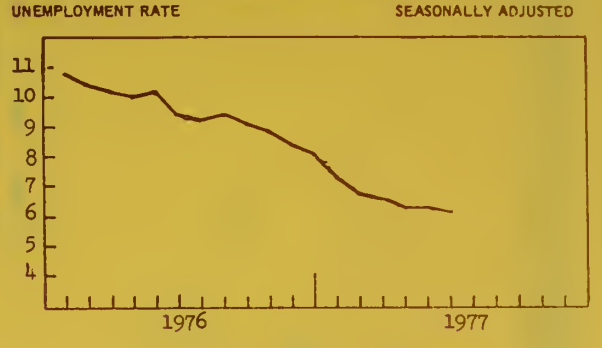
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



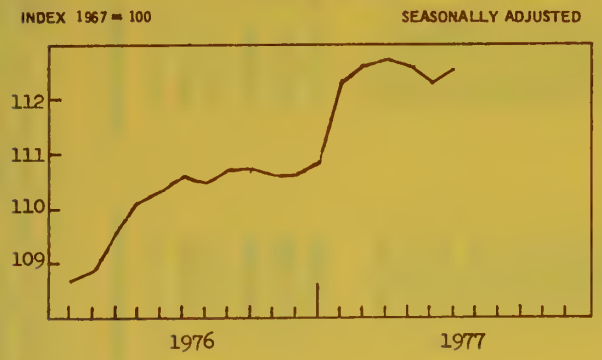
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



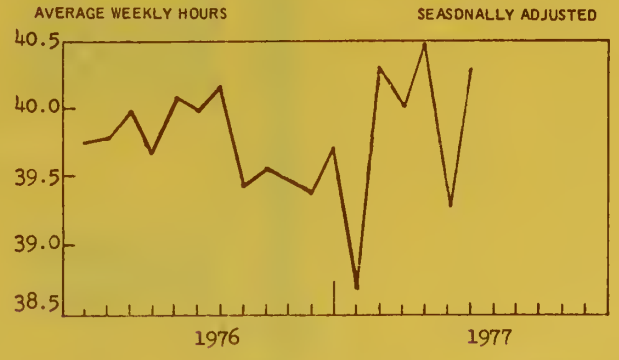
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



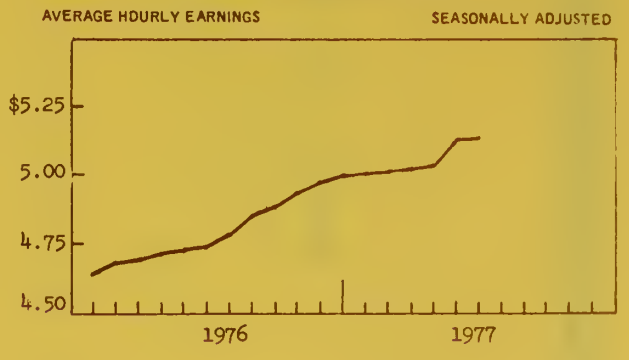
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	JUNE 1977		MAY 1977		JUNE 1976	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,553.7	90,679.0	2,550.1	90,408.0	2,509.4	87,533.0
The Unemployment Rate	6.1	7.1	6.4	6.9	9.4	7.6
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,363.3	82,056.0	2,364.1	81,921.0	2,314.9	79,368.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	611.9	19,576.0	611.6	19,599.0	596.6	18,984.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.3	40.5	39.3	40.4	39.9	40.2
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.11	$5.59	$5.13	$5.56	$4.73	$5.15

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial	Persistent	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
				June 1977	May 1977 R/	June 1976 R/	June 1977	May 1977 R/	June 1976 R/	June 1977	May 1977 R/	June 1976 R/	June 1977	May 1977	June 1976	June 1977	May 1977	June 1976
			Massachusetts	2,759,600	2,726,400	2,814,500	2,584,500	2,562,800	2,539,600	175,100	163,600	274,900	6.3	6.0	9.8	6.1	6.4	9.4
			Major Labor Areas															
D			Boston SMSA	1,330,600	1,319,500	1,378,200	1,248,300	1,243,700	1,248,500	82,300	75,800	129,700	6.2	5.7	9.4			
D			Brockton SMSA	76,500	75,100	76,800	70,600	69,900	68,300	5,900	5,200	8,500	7.7	7.0	11.1			
D			Fall River LMA	74,900	74,100	75,000	70,100	69,400	68,300	4,800	4,700	6,700	6.4	6.4	8.9			
D			Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	128,800	127,700	133,500	118,700	118,200	116,400	10,100	9,500	17,100	7.9	7.4	12.8			
D			Lowell LMA	106,700	104,700	108,800	99,400	98,000	97,000	7,300	6,700	11,800	6.8	6.4	10.8			
D			New Bedford LMA	80,700	79,300	79,200	74,500	73,300	71,300	6,200	6,000	7,900	7.6	7.6	10.0			
D			Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	264,600	264,800	265,300	249,700	250,500	239,300	14,900	14,300	26,000	5.6	5.4	9.8			
D			Worcester LMA	190,800	187,700	193,300	180,400	178,300	175,200	10,400	9,400	18,100	5.5	5.0	9.4			
			Other Labor Areas															
			Athol	10,920	10,740	10,940	10,200	10,070	9,730	720	670	1,210	6.6	6.2	11.0			
			Barnstable County	69,350	62,000	67,950	64,450	56,900	61,350	4,900	5,100	6,600	7.1	8.2	9.7			
			Clinton	9,380	9,490	10,000	8,350	8,570	9,060	1,030	920	940	11.0	9.7	9.4			
			Dukes County	5,070	5,080	5,010	4,860	4,770	4,690	210	310	320	4.2	6.2	6.4			
			Fitchburg-Leominster	47,000	46,300	48,800	43,800	43,300	43,600	3,200	3,000	5,200	6.7	6.5	10.7			
			Gardner	19,050	18,850	20,950	17,700	17,600	18,600	1,350	1,250	2,350	7.0	6.7	11.3			
			Gloucester	24,050	23,450	24,200	22,200	21,800	21,700	1,850	1,650	2,500	7.7	7.0	10.3			
			Great Barrington	9,010	8,780	8,870	8,530	8,350	8,310	480	430	560	5.3	4.9	6.3			
			Greenfield	28,400	27,950	28,350	26,750	26,350	25,600	1,650	1,600	2,750	5.9	5.7	9.6			
			Marlboro	45,950	45,000	43,700	43,900	43,350	40,750	2,050	1,650	2,950	4.4	3.7	6.8			
			Milford	19,150	18,750	19,950	18,050	17,650	17,800	1,100	1,100	2,150	5.7	5.9	10.7			
			Nantucket	4,240	3,050	4,110	4,110	2,860	3,970	130	190	140	3.1	6.1	3.5			
			Newburyport	16,940	16,620	16,800	15,610	15,380	14,800	1,330	1,240	2,000	7.9	7.5	11.9			
			Pittsfield	68,300	66,700	68,900	63,400	62,100	61,800	4,900	4,600	7,100	7.2	7.0	10.2			
			Plymouth	32,800	32,060	33,170	30,140	29,420	29,030	2,660	2,640	4,140	8.1	8.2	12.5			
			Southbridge	15,440	15,140	15,240	14,690	14,390	13,890	750	750	1,350	4.9	4.9	8.9			
			Taunton	30,180	29,610	30,270	28,400	27,970	27,500	1,780	1,640	2,770	5.9	5.5	9.1			
			Ware	7,250	7,000	7,350	6,730	6,500	6,200	520	500	1,150	7.1	7.2	15.7			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

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Vol. 4 **No.** 6 **Data for** JUNE 1977

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment in Massachusetts declined in June to a seasonally adjusted rate of 6.1 percent from 6.4 percent in May. The comparable national rate was 7.1 percent, up from 6.9 percent in May.

Unemployment in Massachusetts increased during June by 11,500 to 175,100, while employment also increased during the same period by 21,700 to 2,584,500. This seemingly paradoxical increase in both employed and unemployed is customary in June. The labor force often peaks in June due to the influx of students and graduates and employment expansion in seasonal businesses. Because the increase in the number of unemployed was below expectations for the month, the unemployment rate after seasonal adjustment declined.

While there was an unquestionable improvement in the economy of Massachusetts, the methodology of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics for estimating state unemployment appeared, again as in 1976, to be exaggerating the improvement. Partial data from the Massachusetts portion of the CPS national monthly household survey indicate that the preliminary 1977 unemployment rates for Massachusetts are significantly understating the actual unemployment level.

Continued claims under the State's regular unemployment benefit program declined for the fifth consecutive month and are now at their lowest level since June 1973 and 17 percent below a year ago.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in June was 2,382,400 an 18,000 increase over May and 48,500 over June 1976. Nonmanufacturing accounted for two thirds of the monthly gain with wholesale and retail trade, construction, and services continuing to show seasonal gains. The only nonmanufacturing divisions still below year-ago levels are construction and transportation, communication, and utilities. Manufacturing employment increased by 6,900, with durables up by 3,300 and nondurables 3,600. All manufacturing industries increased over their May levels with leather, food, electrical machinery, and fabricated metals exhibiting the major gains.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

MASS. MA 20.4: vol. 4/no. 7

MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

JULY

Vol. 4 No. 7 **Data for** AUGUST 1977

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts' seasonally adjusted July unemployment rate was 6.1 percent, the same as June. The comparable National July rate was 6.9 percent a slight decline from 7.1 percent in June.

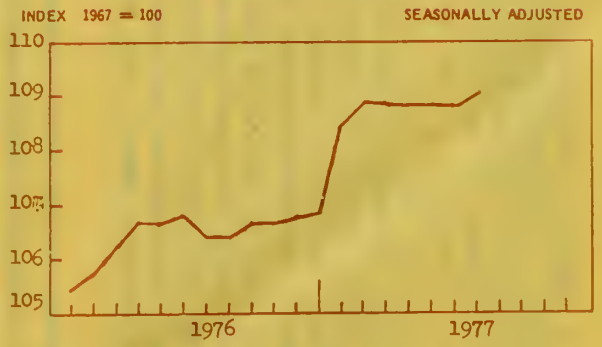
These are preliminary monthly unemployment rates for Massachusetts and that it is believed a significant upward revision of these rates will occur when the annual Massachusetts labor force data from the Current Population Survey are made available in early 1978.

Continued claims under the State's regular unemployment benefit program registered an expected seasonal increase due to vacation shutdowns in many industries, but are at the lowest July level since 1970. The Federal and Federal-State extended benefit programs' continued claims are 64.0 percent below the July, 1976 level and 3.6 percent below a month ago. Continued withdrawals from the labor force of the long term unemployed and a decrease in the number of workers entering the labor force largely offset the increase in continued claims for regular unemployment benefits resulting in only a slight increase in the number of unemployed individuals from June to July.

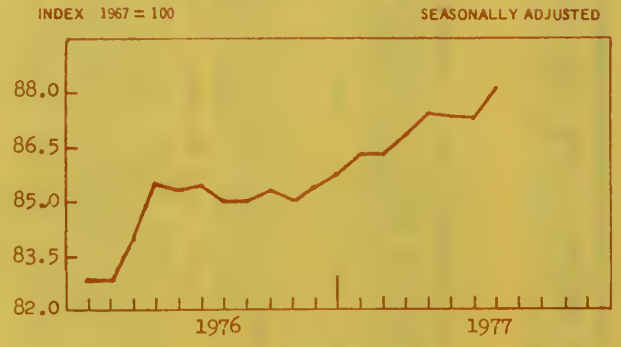
Total July nonagricultural employment experienced a smaller than expected seasonal decline, dropping to 2,365,500 from 2,381,600 in June. Only manufacturing employment declined, due largely to vacation shutdowns, while nonmanufacturing employment remained stable. Total nonagricultural employment is now 57,800 ahead of its year ago level with manufacturing employment increasing 21,200 and nonmanufacturing up 36,600. In manufacturing, durable goods employment increased 18,200 while nondurable employment rose by only 3,000. Nonelectrical (+7,700) and electrical machinery (+3,400) had the largest gains, with electronic components (+3,200) providing the bulk of the electrical machinery increase. Small gains in most nondurable goods industries plus a larger increase of 1,900 in the other nondurable goods category outweighed a loss of 1,500 in the leather and leather products industry to result in the small over-the-year increase. The twelve month gain in nonmanufacturing was led by wholesale - retail trade and services with a combined rise of 33,400. Transportation and public utilities experienced a slight decline but contract construction employment is 3,200 below its year ago level.

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

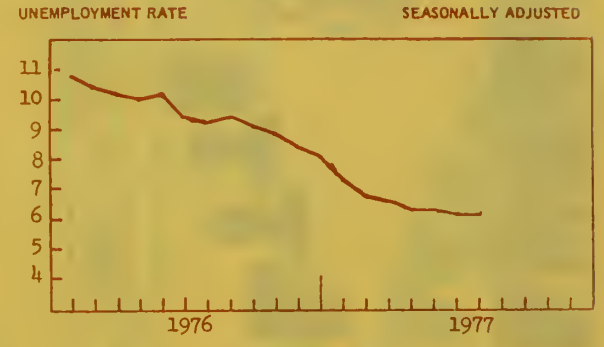
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



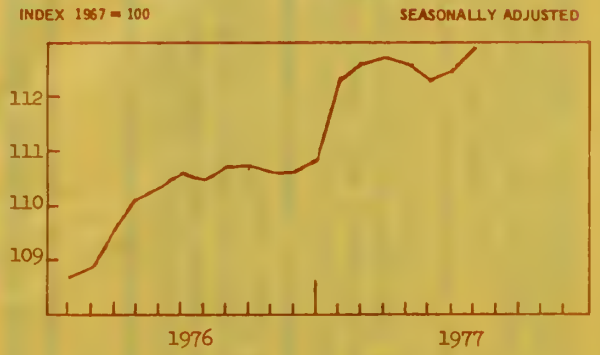
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



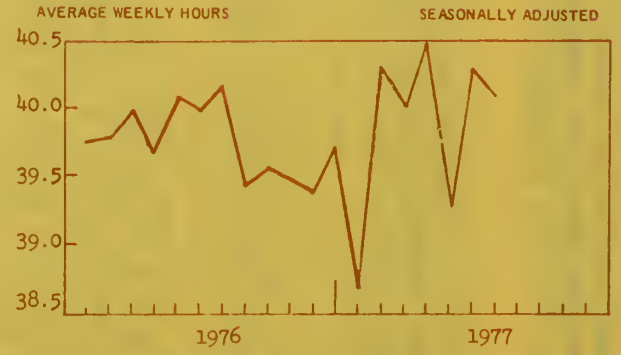
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



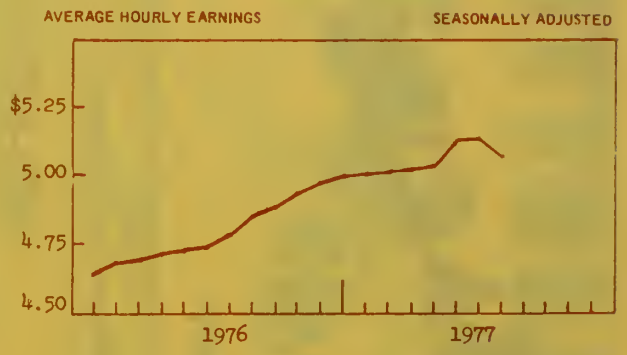
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	JULY 1977		JUNE 1977		JULY 1976	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,560.8	90,561.0	2,552.9	90,679.0	2,506.7	87,783.0
The Unemployment Rate	6.1	6.9	6.1	7.1	9.2	7.8
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,367.8	82,351.0	2,362.5	82,095.0	2,309.8	79,513.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	616.6	19,690.0	611.9	19,619.0	594.8	18,945.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.1	40.3	40.3	40.5	40.2	40.1
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.06	$5.63	$5.11	$5.60	$4.78	$5.20

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial or persistent	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/					
												Unadjusted			Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
			July 1977	June 1977	July R/ 1976	July 1977	June 1977	July R/ 1976	July 1977	June 1977	July R/ 1976	1977	1977	1976	1977	1977	1976
		Massachusetts	2,751,900	2,758,700	2,794,700	2,574,500	2,583,600	2,520,100	177,400	175,100	274,600	6.4	6.3	9.8	6.1	6.1	9.2
		Major Labor Areas															
D		Boston SMSA	1,325,200	1,330,600	1,367,070	1,244,300	1,248,300	1,238,978	80,900	82,300	128,093	6.1	6.2	9.4			
D		Brockton SMSA	75,700	76,500	75,100	70,000	70,600	66,600	5,700	5,900	8,500	7.6	7.7	11.3			
D		Fall River LMA	74,000	74,800	73,800	68,500	70,000	66,600	5,500	4,800	7,200	7.4	6.4	9.8			
D		Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	127,500	128,800	130,600	116,800	118,700	112,500	10,700	10,100	18,100	8.4	7.9	13.9			
D		Lowell LMA	105,500	106,700	107,300	98,300	99,400	95,100	7,200	7,300	12,200	6.9	6.8	11.3			
D		New Bedford LMA	80,200	80,700	79,200	73,100	74,500	69,700	7,100	6,200	9,500	8.8	7.6	12.0			
D		Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	264,300	264,600	262,600	248,700	249,700	237,700	15,600	14,900	24,900	5.9	5.6	9.5			
D		Worcester LMA	186,600	190,800	189,900	176,100	180,400	171,700	10,500	10,400	18,200	5.6	5.5	9.6			
		Other Labor Areas															
		Athol	11,020	10,920	10,880	10,180	10,200	9,720	840	720	1,160	7.6	6.6	10.6			
		Barnstable County	73,650	69,350	71,650	69,100	64,450	65,700	4,550	4,900	5,950	6.1	7.0	8.3			
		Clinton	9,240	9,380	10,200	8,230	8,350	8,900	1,010	1,030	1,300	11.0	11.0	12.7			
		Dukes County	5,730	5,070	5,480	5,540	4,860	5,220	190	210	260	3.2	4.2	4.8			
		Fitchburg-Leominster	46,100	46,950	47,550	42,900	43,800	42,450	3,200	3,150	5,100	6.9	6.7	10.7			
		Gardner	19,350	19,050	20,750	17,800	17,700	18,200	1,550	1,350	2,550	8.0	7.0	12.3			
		Gloucester	24,876	24,050	24,592	23,039	22,200	22,330	1,837	1,850	2,262	7.4	7.7	9.2			
		Great Barrington	9,180	9,010	10,090	8,750	8,530	9,460	430	480	630	4.7	5.3	6.3			
		Greenfield	28,450	28,400	28,850	26,850	26,750	26,350	1,600	1,650	2,500	5.6	5.9	8.7			
		Marlboro	46,000	45,950	42,700	43,800	43,900	39,850	2,200	2,050	2,850	4.8	4.4	6.7			
		Milford	19,400	19,150	19,560	17,950	18,050	17,430	1,450	1,100	2,130	7.4	5.7	10.9			
		Nantucket	4,800	4,240	4,630	4,680	4,110	4,470	120	130	160	2.5	3.2	3.4			
		Newburyport	16,909	16,940	16,712	15,524	15,610	14,669	1,385	1,330	2,043	8.2	7.9	12.2			
		Pittsfield	69,000	68,300	71,300	64,100	63,400	64,400	4,900	4,900	6,900	7.1	7.2	9.6			
		Plymouth	32,800	32,800	32,800	30,130	30,140	28,880	2,670	2,660	3,920	8.1	8.1	11.9			
		Southbridge	15,980	15,440	15,160	15,190	14,690	13,800	790	750	1,360	4.9	4.8	9.0			
		Taunton	29,500	30,180	29,490	27,570	28,400	26,740	1,930	1,780	2,750	6.6	5.9	9.3			
		Ware	6,860	7,240	7,200	6,310	6,730	6,160	550	510	1,040	8.0	7.1	14.5			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

*Area Classification

R - Revised

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Major labor areas classified in Groups D, E, and F are regarded as areas of "substantial unemployment." Groups A, B, and C range from overall labor shortage to moderate unemployment. The Department of Labor also classifies several hundred other areas when they meet the substantial unemployment criteria. These areas are not placed in specific letter classification categories. Areas of less than 1,500 population may be "certified" by State employment security agencies, upon authorization by the Department, as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment. Such areas are not included in the list of classified areas.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1972 - 1977

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Ad	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	
1972	2,481.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5
1975	2,730.0	2,426.0	304.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8
1976	2,762.0	2,499.0	263.0	9.5	7.7	9.5	7
June	2,814.5	2,539.6	274.9	9.8	8.0	9.4	7.
July	2,794.7	2,520.1	274.6	9.8	7.8	9.2	7.
August	2,782.3	2,531.9	250.4	9.0	7.6	9.3	7.
September	2,767.0	2,536.0	231.0	8.3	7.4	9.1	7.
October	2,750.4	2,533.0	217.4	7.9	7.2	8.9	7.
November	2,740.3	2,534.7	205.6	7.5	7.4	8.3	8.
December	2,743.6	2,535.0	208.6	7.6	7.4	8.1	7.
1977							
January	2,702.3	2,486.8	215.5	8.0	8.3	7.3	7.
February	2,700.0	2,494.2	205.8	7.6	8.5	6.8	7.
March	2,709.9	2,511.0	198.9	7.3	7.9	6.7	7.
April	2,715.7	2,539.0	176.7	6.5	6.9	6.4	7.
May	2,726.4	2,562.8	163.6	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.
June	2,758.7	2,583.6	175.1	6.3	7.5	6.1	7.
July	2,751.9	2,574.5	177.4	6.4	7.0	6.1	6.

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Emplo and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO
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MASS. MA20.4: vol 4/no.8

MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

GOVERNMENT COLLECTION OCT 1 1977 University of Massachusetts

Vol. 4 **No.** 8 **Data for** AUGUST 1977

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

CORRECTION NOTICE: VOL. 4 NO. 7 OF THE MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS, DATA FOR AUGUST 1977 WAS, IN FACT, JULY HIGHLIGHTS, DATA FOR JULY 1977. PLEASE CORRECT BOTH HEADINGS TO AVOID LATER CONFUSION.

During August, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts remained at 6.1 percent for the third consecutive month. Nationally, the rate increased to 7.1 percent from 6.9 percent in July. The number of Massachusetts residents who are unemployed decreased by 16,200, a decline of almost 10 percent. However, 161,200 people remain unemployed. The number of people with jobs rose slightly to 2,582,200. This is an increase of 9,300 job holders for the month of August.

These are preliminary unemployment rates for Massachusetts. A significant upward revision may occur early in 1978 when unemployment data which has been calculated monthly is adjusted to the annual average labor force data from the Current Population Survey.

Nonagricultural employment of wage and salary workers increased by 4,900 in August to 2,368,900. Manufacturing employment increased by 5,100 with durable goods declining 2,400 while nondurable goods employment rose by 7,500. Most of the monthly increase in nondurable goods was attributed to the ending of July vacation shutdowns in the apparel, textile, and leather industries. Comparisons with the recorded employment figures for August of 1976 show nonagricultural employment has increased by 46,700, with the nonmanufacturing sector (+38,700) accounting for most of the increase. In the manufacturing sector a 10,200 employment increase in durable goods outweighed a 2,200 employment decline in nondurable goods. The largest yearly manufacturing gains were posted in nonelectrical machinery (+6,600),, electrical machinery (+2,000) and instruments (+2,000). In the electrical machinery, a 2,700 gain in the electronic components and accessories group outweighed small losses in the other groups. The two major nondurable goods industries which recorded yearly gains were rubber and plastic products (+1,500) and printing (+200). Yearly losses of over 1,000 were posted in appared (-1,400) and leather and leather products (-1,100). In the nonmanufacturing sector, services (+18,200) and wholesale and retail trade (+17,300) were the leading gainers while construction employment trailed year ago levels by 3,300.

In the week ending July 23, 1977 both the Federal (FSB) and Federal-State (TREX) extended benefit programs triggered off. No new claims could be filed under the FSB program after August 13, 1977, but, benefits could be claimed weekly through November 12, 1977. All TREX activity ceased as of August 13, 1977 but resumed in the week ending September 3, 1977 for a new thirteen week extended benefit period when the National TREX trigger went back on.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial	Persistent	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/					
													Unadjusted			Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
				Aug. 1977	July 1977	Aug. R/ 1976	Aug. 1977	July 1977	Aug. R/ 1976	Aug. 1977	July 1977	Aug. R/ 1976	Aug. 1977	July 1977	Aug. 1976	Aug. 1977	July 1977	Aug. 1976
			Massachusetts	2,743,400	2,750,300	2,782,300	2,582,200	2,572,900	2,531,900	161,200	177,400	250,400	5.9	6.5	9.0	6.1	6.1	9.3
			Major Labor Areas															
D			Boston SMSA	1,320,200	1,325,200	1,359,200	1,244,400	1,244,300	1,241,300	75,800	80,900	117,900	5.7	6.1	8.7			
D			Brockton SMSA	76,100	75,700	74,600	70,700	70,000	66,900	5,400	5,700	7,700	7.1	7.6	10.4			
D			Fall River LMA	74,100	74,000	73,900	69,700	68,500	67,800	4,400	5,500	6,100	5.9	7.4	8.3			
D			Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	128,400	127,500	127,400	119,000	116,800	111,400	9,400	10,700	16,000	7.3	8.4	12.6			
D			Lowell LMA	105,500	105,500	105,800	98,800	98,300	95,000	6,700	7,200	10,800	6.4	6.9	10.2			
D			New Bedford LMA	79,500	80,200	78,400	73,600	73,100	70,400	5,900	7,100	8,000	7.4	8.8	10.2			
D			Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	261,400	264,300	263,300	247,800	248,700	239,900	13,600	15,600	23,400	5.2	5.9	8.9			
D			Worcester LMA	186,200	186,600	189,400	176,700	176,100	172,600	9,500	10,500	16,800	5.1	5.6	8.9			
			Other Labor Areas															
			Athol	10,790	11,020	11,010	10,100	10,180	9,960	690	840	1,150	6.4	7.6	10.5			
			Barnstable County	73,430	73,650	71,560	69,340	69,100	65,760	4,090	4,550	5,800	5.6	6.1	8.1			
			Clinton	9,210	9,240	10,000	8,200	8,230	8,980	1,010	1,010	1,020	11.0	11.0	10.2			
			Dukes County	5,890	5,730	5,560	5,680	5,540	5,320	210	190	240	3.5	3.2	4.3			
			Fitchburg-Leominster	45,900	46,100	47,550	43,150	42,900	42,900	2,750	3,200	4,650	6.0	6.9	9.8			
			Gardner	19,150	19,350	20,650	17,900	17,800	18,400	1,250	1,550	2,250	6.4	8.0	10.8			
			Gloucester	24,550	24,880	24,610	23,080	23,040	22,570	1,470	1,840	2,040	6.0	7.4	8.3			
			Great Barrington	9,470	9,180	9,920	9,070	8,750	9,350	400	430	570	4.2	4.7	5.8			
			Greenfield	28,250	28,450	28,600	26,900	26,850	26,300	1,350	1,600	2,300	4.8	5.6	8.1			
			Marlboro	46,350	46,000	43,000	44,350	43,800	40,350	2,000	2,200	2,650	4.3	4.8	6.1			
			Milford	19,400	19,400	19,250	18,200	17,950	17,500	1,200	1,450	1,750	6.2	7.4	9.1			
			Nantucket	4,060	4,800	4,590	3,960	4,680	4,460	100	120	130	2.4	2.5	2.8			
			Newburyport	17,080	16,910	16,830	15,890	15,520	15,010	1,190	1,390	1,820	7.0	8.2	10.8			
			Pittsfield	68,800	69,000	71,200	64,200	64,100	65,000	4,600	4,900	6,200	6.7	7.1	8.8			
			Plymouth	32,830	32,800	32,840	30,420	30,130	29,310	2,410	2,670	3,530	7.4	8.1	10.7			
			Southbridge	15,980	15,980	15,200	15,230	15,190	13,920	750	790	1,280	4.7	4.9	8.4			
			Taunton	29,390	29,500	29,230	27,630	27,570	26,810	1,760	1,930	2,420	6.0	6.6	8.3			
			Ware	6,930	6,860	7,330	6,430	6,310	6,260	500	550	1,070	7.2	8.0	14.6			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

*/ *Area Classification*

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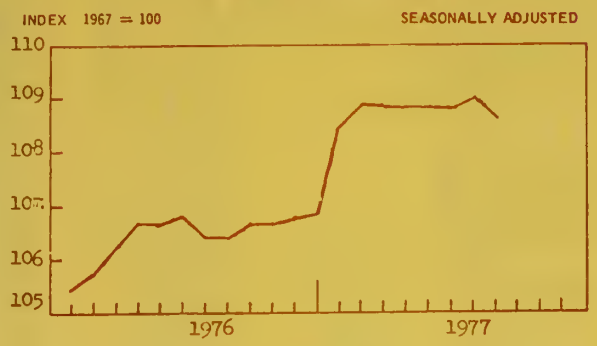
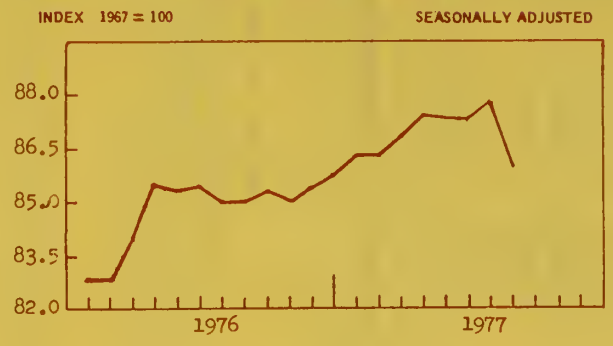
Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

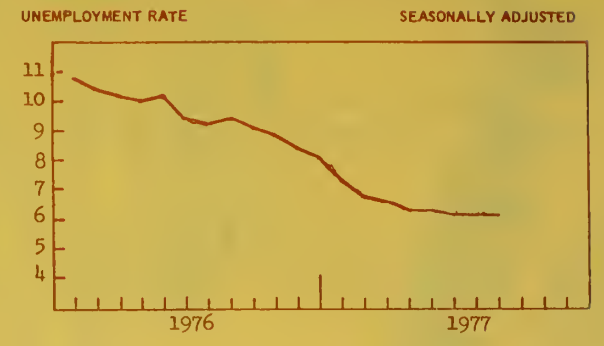
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



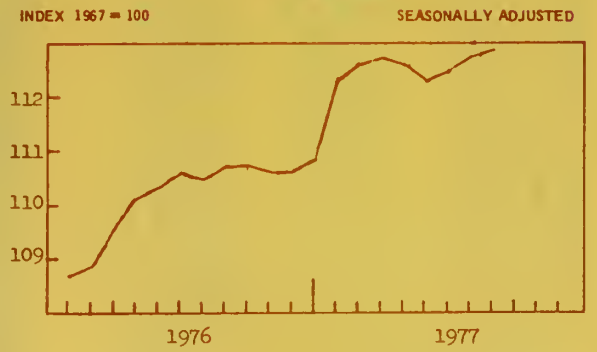
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



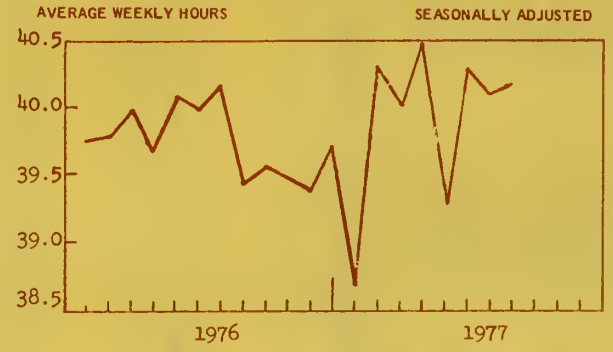
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



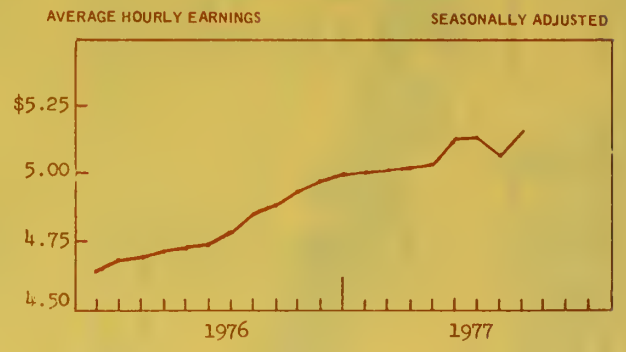
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	AUGUST 1977		JULY 1977		AUGUST 1976	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,560.7	90,771.0	2,559.2	90,561.0	2,510.7	87,834.0
The Unemployment Rate	6.1	7.1	6.1	6.9	9.3	7.9
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,355.7	82,448.0	2,366.3	82,356.0	2,309.4	79,618.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	602.6	19,602.0	615.0	19,666.0	594.7	18,979.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.2	40.1	40.1	40.3	39.4	40.0
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.16	$5.64	$5.06	$5.64	$4.85	$5.21

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1972 - 1977

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Adj	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U
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1977							
January	2,702.3	2,486.8	215.5	8.0	8.3	7.3	7.
February	2,700.0	2,494.2	205.8	7.6	8.5	6.8	7.
March	2,709.9	2,511.0	198.9	7.3	7.9	6.7	7.
April	2,715.7	2,539.0	176.7	6.5	6.9	6.4	7.
May	2,726.4	2,562.8	163.6	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.
June	2,758.7	2,583.6	175.1	6.3	7.5	6.1	7.
July	2,750.3	2,572.9	177.4	6.5	7.0	6.1	6.
August	2,743.4	2,582.2	161.2	5.9	6.8	6.1	7.

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employ and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 4 **No.** 9 SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS **Data for** SEPTEMBER 1977

Massachusetts' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.8 percent during the month of September. This compares with a seasonally adjusted rate of 6.1 percent for the past three months, and with a rate of 9.1 percent for September 1976. The national unemployment rate was 6.9 percent for September 1977, down from 7.1 percent in August. These are preliminary unemployment rates for the state, and a significant upward revision may occur early in 1978 when the monthly unemployment data is adjusted to the annual average labor force data from the Current Population Survey.

The United States Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is in the process of an extensive review of the formulas and procedures used for calculating unemployment rates. Until these revisions have been completed the unemployment rates produced by the current 70-step formula may be subject to substantial adjustments at the end of the year. Annual revisions for Massachusetts and many other states were sizeable in both 1975 and 1976 and we believe that the Massachusetts rate for 1977 may be understated as well.

Massachusetts has been among those states actively working with the Bureau of Labor Statistics to develop new procedures which will minimize extensive revisions. However, at this point, the current unemployment rates should be recognized as preliminary and subject to revision in February 1978.

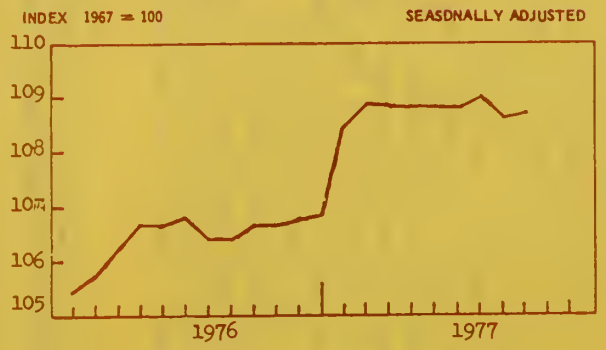
The number of Massachusetts residents who are unemployed is projected to be 144,400, a decrease of 16,800 individuals from August's figures. Employment in Massachusetts rose to 2,591,100, an increase of 8,500 job holders for the month of September.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased by 14,500 from August's figures, up to 2,384,500 workers. Manufacturing employment registered a 5,900 increase over the month (610,200) with durable goods increasing by 3,800 and nondurable goods increasing by 2,100. Most of the manufacturing gain was attributed to an increase of 2,400 workers in transportation equipment. Nonmanufacturing rose by 8,600 over the month (1,774,300), with the largest gain recorded in wholesale and retail trade (+9,000). A comparison with the recorded figures for September 1976 shows nonagricultural employment increasing by 47,100, with the nonmanufacturing sector (+37,600) contributing to most of the increase. The manufacturing sector shows a net yearly increase of 9,500 jobs while the nondurable goods sector declined by 1,500. Non-electrical machinery (+5,200) and electronic components (+2,700) produced the largest yearly gains in the manufacturing sector. In nonmanufacturing the largest yearly gains were posted in wholesale and retail trade (+18,100) and services (+17,100). The yearly losses in nonmanufacturing were minimal in comparison with the yearly gains. The largest yearly declines were in contract construction (-2,400) and leather and leather products (-1,000).

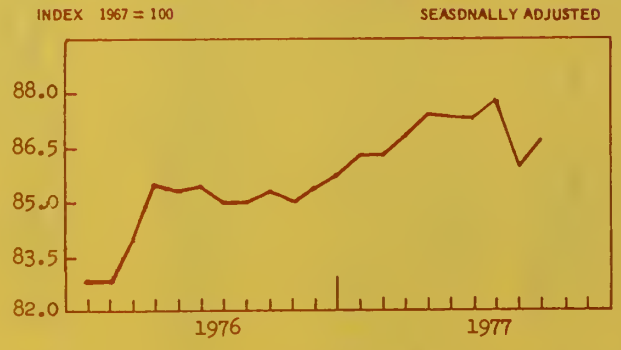
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John D. Crosier, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

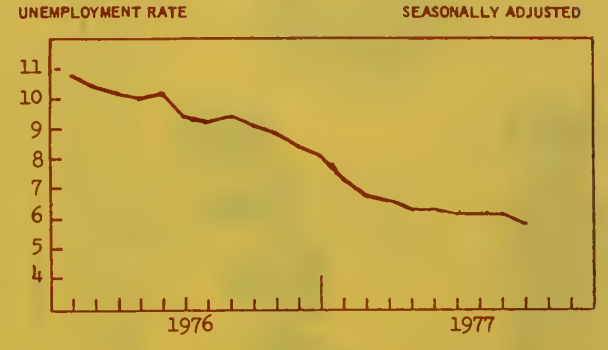
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



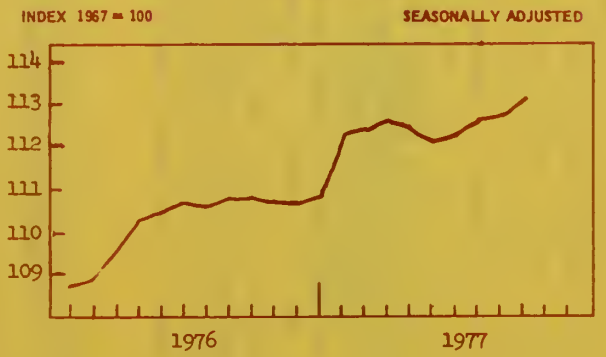
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



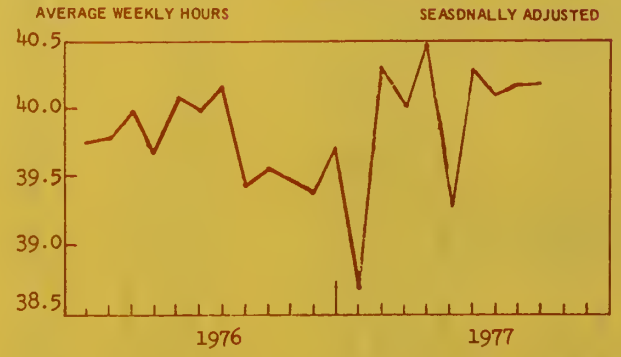
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



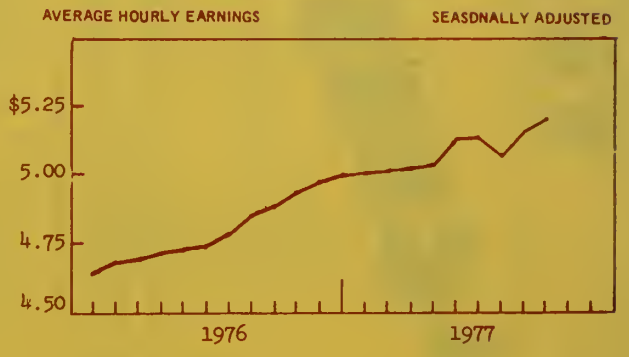
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	SEPTEMBER 1977		AUGUST 1977		SEPTEMBER 1976	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,566.1	91,095.0	2,560.4	90,771.0	2,511.5	87,794.0
The Unemployment Rate	5.8	6.9	6.1	7.1	9.1	7.8
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,359.7	82,750.0	2,356.8	82,459.0	2,313.2	79,918.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	605.7	19,618.0	602.6	19,580.0	596.4	19,100.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.2	40.0	40.2	40.2	39.5	39.7
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.20	$5.73	$5.16	$5.65	$4.87	$5.31

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial	Persistent	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
				Sept. 1977	Aug. 1977	Sept R 1976	Sept. 1977	Aug. 1977	Sept. R 1976	Sept. 1977	Aug. 1977	Sept. R 1976	Sept. 1977	Aug. 1977	Sept. 1976	Sept. 1977	Aug. 1977	Sept. 1976
			Massachusetts	2,735,500	2,743,100	2,767,000	2,591,100	2,581,900	2,536,000	144,400	161,200	231,000	5.3	5.9	8.3	5.8	6.1	9.1
			Major Labor Areas															
D			Boston SMSA	1,316,900	1,320,200	1,340,700	1,247,500	1,244,400	1,232,500	69,400	75,800	108,200	5.3	5.7	8.1			
D			Brockton SMSA	75,900	76,100	75,800	71,200	70,700	68,300	4,700	5,400	7,500	6.2	7.1	9.8			
D			Fall River LMA	75,500	74,100	75,100	71,500	69,700	68,600	4,000	4,400	6,500	5.3	5.9	8.7			
D			Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	126,900	128,400	128,800	118,400	119,000	114,000	8,500	9,400	14,800	6.7	7.3	11.5			
D			Lowell LMA	104,700	105,500	105,200	98,800	98,800	95,400	5,900	6,700	9,800	5.6	6.4	9.3			
D			New Bedford LMA	79,200	79,500	78,800	73,700	73,600	71,200	5,500	5,900	7,600	6.9	7.4	9.6			
D			Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	264,100	261,400	268,400	252,200	247,800	247,400	11,900	13,600	21,000	4.5	5.2	7.8			
D			Worcester LMA	190,000	186,200	191,800	182,000	176,700	176,600	8,000	9,500	15,200	4.2	5.1	7.9			
			Other Labor Areas															
			Athol	10,580	10,790	10,940	10,020	10,100	9,900	560	690	1,040	5.3	6.4	9.5			
			Barnstable County	67,600	73,430	66,750	63,900	69,340	60,890	3,700	4,090	5,860	5.5	5.6	8.8			
			Clinton	9,250	9,210	9,910	8,370	8,200	8,940	880	1,010	970	9.5	11.0	9.8			
			Dukes County	5,160	5,890	5,040	4,950	5,680	4,780	210	210	260	4.0	3.5	5.1			
			Fitchburg-Leominster	46,100	45,900	47,400	43,850	43,150	43,250	2,250	2,750	4,150	4.9	6.0	8.7			
			Gardner	18,900	19,150	20,300	17,850	17,900	18,300	1,050	1,250	2,000	5.6	6.4	9.8			
			Gloucester	24,150	24,550	24,100	22,650	23,080	22,200	1,500	1,470	1,900	6.2	6.0	7.9			
			Great Barrington	9,750	9,470	10,140	9,390	9,070	9,650	360	400	490	3.7	4.2	4.8			
			Greenfield	28,150	28,250	28,700	26,950	26,900	26,650	1,200	1,350	2,050	4.3	4.8	7.1			
			Marlboro	45,900	46,350	43,500	44,300	44,350	41,050	1,600	2,000	2,450	3.5	4.3	5.6			
			Milford	19,050	19,400	19,500	18,150	18,200	17,900	900	1,200	1,600	4.8	6.2	8.3			
			Nantucket	4,180	4,780	4,020	4,080	4,670	3,890	100	110	130	2.3	2.2	3.3			
			Newburyport	17,110	17,080	16,700	15,980	15,890	15,040	1,130	1,190	1,660	6.6	7.0	10.0			
			Pittsfield	67,000	68,800	70,500	63,100	64,200	64,500	3,900	4,600	6,000	5.8	6.7	8.5			
			Plymouth	32,720	32,830	32,710	30,590	30,420	29,550	2,130	2,410	3,160	6.5	7.4	9.7			
			Southbridge	16,080	15,980	15,090	15,440	15,230	14,040	640	750	1,050	4.0	4.7	7.0			
			Taunton	29,830	29,390	28,920	28,250	27,630	26,700	1,580	1,760	2,220	5.3	6.0	7.7			
			Ware	6,830	6,930	7,120	6,430	6,430	6,260	400	500	860	5.9	7.2	12.1			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

* *Area Classification*

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Major labor areas classified in Groups D, E, and F are regarded as areas of "substantial unemployment." Groups A, B, and C range from overall labor shortage to moderate unemployment. The Department of Labor also classifies several hundred other areas when they meet the substantial unemployment criteria. These areas are not placed in specific letter classification categories. Areas of less than 1,500 population may be "certified" by State employment security agencies, upon authorization by the Department, as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment. Such areas are not included in the list of classified areas.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1972 - 1977

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Adj	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U
1972	2,481.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.
1975	2,730.0	2,426.0	304.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.
1976	2,762.0	2,499.0	263.0	9.5	7.7	9.5	7.
August	2,782.3	2,531.9	250.4	9.0	7.6	9.3	7.
September	2,767.0	2,536.0	231.0	8.3	7.4	9.1	7.
October	2,750.4	2,533.0	217.4	7.9	7.2	8.9	7.
November	2,740.3	2,534.7	205.6	7.5	7.4	8.3	8.
December	2,743.6	2,535.0	208.6	7.6	7.4	8.1	7.
1977							
January	2,702.3	2,486.8	215.5	8.0	8.3	7.3	7.
February	2,700.0	2,494.2	205.8	7.6	8.5	6.8	7.
March	2,709.9	2,511.0	198.9	7.3	7.9	6.7	7.
April	2,715.7	2,539.0	176.7	6.5	6.9	6.4	7.
May	2,726.4	2,562.8	163.6	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.
June	2,758.7	2,583.6	175.1	6.3	7.5	6.1	7.
July	2,750.3	2,572.9	177.4	6.5	7.0	6.1	6.
August	2,743.1	2,581.9	161.2	5.9	6.8	6.1	7.
September	2,735.5	2,591.1	144.4	5.3	6.6	5.8	6.

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employ and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

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Vol. 4 **No.** 10 **Data for** OCTOBER 1977

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

Massachusetts' seasonally adjusted unemployment rate remained stable at 5.8 percent during October 1977. This is in contrast to the national rate for October which increased slightly to 7.0 percent, from last month's rate of 6.9 percent.

The State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for this period in 1976 was 8.9 percent. At that time the State's rate was higher than the national rate of 7.9 percent. While there has been an unquestionable improvement in the State's economy, the published Massachusetts' unemployment rate is understated and will be revised upward next February when all states traditionally adjust their preliminary unemployment rates to labor force data derived from the Federal Current Population Survey (CPS).

The October 1977 employment figure of 2,597,600 shows an increase of 5,500 job holders over September 1977, and an increase of 64,600 over October 1976. The number of unemployed Massachusetts residents is projected to be 141,300--a decrease of 3,100 from last month. In October 1976, the number of unemployed State residents was 217,400.

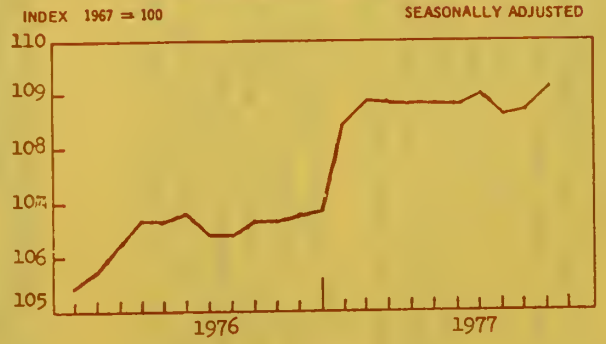
Nonfarm wage and salary employment--2,394,500 workers--showed an increase of 10,500 over last month and an increase of 55,100 over this period last year.

Manufacturing employment reached a total of 611,500--an increase of 3,100 jobs over September 1977 and an increase of 9,100 over this time last year. Employment in durable goods manufacturing increased by 1,800 over last month and 7,400 over October 1976. Employment in nondurable goods manufacturing showed slightly smaller increases: 1,300 over last month and 1,700 over October of last year. In individual industries the largest yearly gains were recorded in fabricated metals (+2,400), machinery (+4,100) and electrical machinery (+2,200). In comparison with last year at this time the largest yearly loss was recorded by transportation equipment (-2,300).

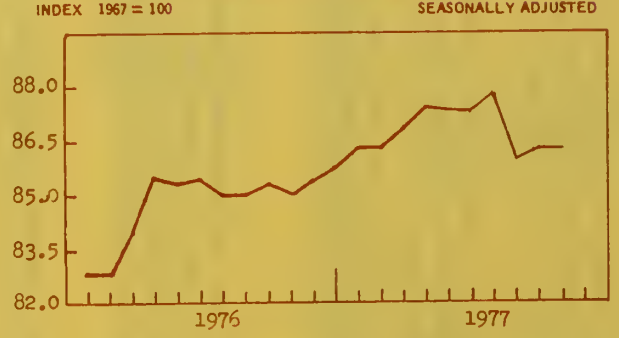
Nonmanufacturing employment in October increased by 7,400 workers over the previous month and by 46,000 over October 1976. Nonmanufacturing employment is now at 1,783,000 with the largest monthly increase recorded in the service industry, which is up by 8,600. A sizeable gain was also made in government employment (+5,800). Compared to October 1976 the largest yearly gains were made by services (+24,600), and wholesale and retail trade (+13,700). The largest yearly loss was recorded by the contract construction industry (-1,900).

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

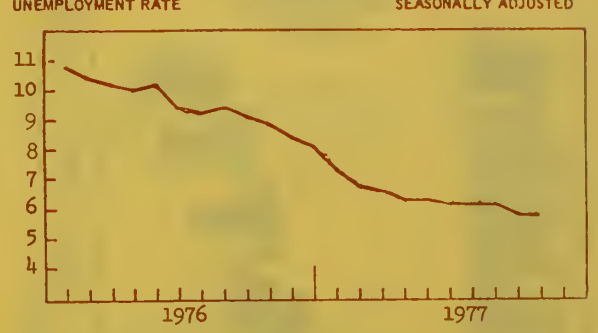
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



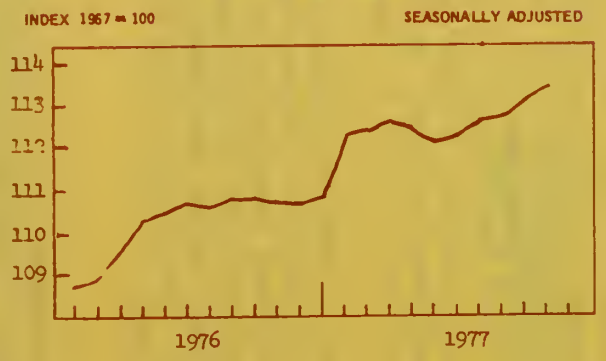
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



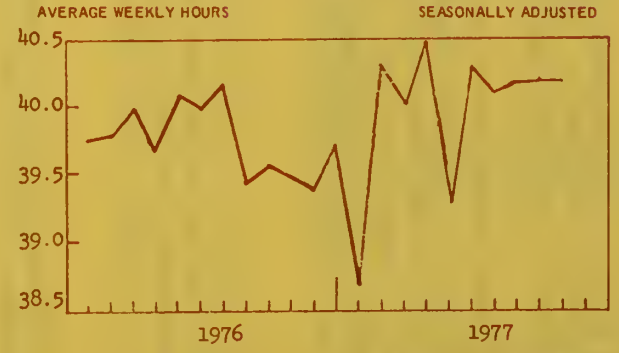
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



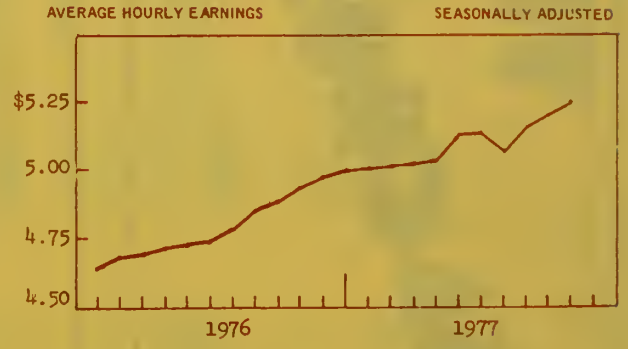
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	October 1977		September 1977		October 1976	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,572.3	91,230.0	2,567.1	91,095.0	2,508.0	87,738.0
The Unemployment Rate	5.8	7.0	5.8	6.9	8.9	7.9
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,366.9	82,926.0	2,359.2	82,807.0	2,312.4	79,819.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	604.0	19,638.0	603.9	19,653.0	595.0	18,941.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.2	40.3	40.2	40.2	39.5	39.9
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.25	$5.78	$5.20	$5.74	$4.92	$5.28

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial Unemployment element	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/					
												Unadjusted			Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
			Oct. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. R 1976	Oct. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. R 1976	Oct. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. R 1976	Oct. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. 1976	Oct. 1977	Sept. 1977	Oct. 1976
		Massachusetts	2,738,900	2,736,500	2,750,400	2,597,600	2,592,100	2,533,00	141,300	144,400	217,400	5.2	5.3	7.9	5.8	5.8	8.9
		Major Labor Areas															
D		Boston SMSA	1,320,700	1,316,900	1,343,300	1,252,700	1,247,500	1,241,600	68,000	69,400	101,700	5.1	5.3	7.6			
D		Brockton SMSA	77,500	75,900	76,200	72,900	71,200	69,100	4,600	4,700	7,100	6.0	6.2	9.3			
D		Fall River LMA	75,000	75,000R	74,600	71,000	71,000	68,500	4,000	4,000	6,100	5.4	5.3	8.2			
D		Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	128,400	126,900	128,000	120,400	118,400	114,400	8,000	8,500	13,600	6.2	6.7	10.6			
D		Lowell LMA	106,600	104,700	105,300	101,000	98,800	96,300	5,600	5,900	9,000	5.3	5.6	8.6			
D		New Bedford LMA	79,600	79,200	78,900	74,200	73,700	70,700	5,400	5,500	8,200	6.7	6.9	10.4			
D		Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	267,100	264,100	264,900	255,700	252,200	245,400	11,400	11,900	19,500	4.3	4.5	7.4			
D		Worcester LMA	192,600	190,000	191,400	184,600	182,000	177,800	8,000	8,000	13,600	4.1	4.2	7.1			
		Other Labor Areas															
		Athol	10,710	10,580	10,710	10,160	10,020	9,820	550	560	890	5.1	5.3	8.3			
		Barnstable County	60,600	67,600	59,100	56,300	63,900	53,000	4,300	3,700	6,100	7.0	5.5	10.3			
		Clinton	9,390	9,250	10,010	8,580	8,370	9,000	810	880	1,010	9.0	9.5	10.1			
		Dukes County	4,980	5,160	4,770	4,720	4,950	4,450	260	210	320	5.3	4.0	6.8			
		Fitchburg-Leominster	46,400	46,100	46,700	44,150	43,850	42,900	2,250	2,250	3,800	4.9	4.9	8.2			
		Gardner	18,710	18,900	20,120	17,680	17,850	18,340	1,030	1,050	1,780	6.0	5.6	8.8			
		Gloucester	23,500	24,150	23,700	21,800	22,650	21,650	1,700	1,500	2,050	7.2	6.2	8.7			
		Great Barrington	9,090	9,750	8,690	8,740	9,390	8,220	350	360	470	3.9	3.7	5.4			
		Greenfield	27,560	28,150	28,390	26,390	26,950	26,490	1,170	1,200	1,900	4.2	4.3	6.7			
		Marlboro	45,400	45,900	43,400	43,850	44,300	41,200	1,550	1,600	2,200	3.4	3.5	5.1			
		Milford	18,950	19,050	19,250	18,100	18,150	17,800	850	900	1,450	4.4	4.8	7.5			
		Nantucket	3,090	4,180	2,860	2,950	4,080	2,700	140	100	160	4.3	2.3	5.5			
		Newburyport	17,140	17,110	16,470	15,990	15,980	15,000	1,150	1,130	1,470	6.7	6.6	8.9			
		Pittsfield	67,220	67,000	69,720	63,630	63,100	63,860	3,590	3,900	5,860	5.3	5.8	8.4			
		Plymouth	32,450	32,720	32,320	30,350	30,590	29,310	2,100	2,130	3,010	6.5	6.5	9.3			
		Southbridge	16,090	16,080	15,000	15,470	15,440	14,000	620	640	1,000	4.0	4.0	6.7			
		Taunton	30,020	29,830	28,730	28,510	28,250	26,770	1,510	1,580	1,960	5.0	5.3	6.8			
		Ware	6,740	6,830	6,960	6,360	6,430	6,170	380	400	790	5.6	5.9	11.4			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

*/*Area Classification* R/ Revised

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Major labor areas classified in Groups D, E, and F are regarded as areas of "substantial unemployment." Groups A, B, and C range from overall labor shortage to moderate unemployment. The Department of Labor also classifies several hundred other areas when they meet the substantial unemployment criteria. These areas are not placed in specific letter classification categories. Areas of less than 1,500 population may be "certified" by State employment security agencies, upon authorization by the Department, as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment. Such areas are not included in the list of classified areas.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1972 - 1977

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Ad	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	
1972	2,481.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.
1975	2,730.0	2,426.0	304.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.
1976	2,762.0	2,499.0	263.0	9.5	7.7	9.5	7.
September	2,767.0	2,536.0	231.0	8.3	7.4	9.1	7.
October	2,750.4	2,533.0	217.4	7.9	7.2	8.9	7.
November	2,740.3	2,534.7	205.6	7.5	7.4	8.3	8.
December	2,743.6	2,535.0	208.6	7.6	7.4	8.1	7.
1977							
January	2,702.3	2,486.8	215.5	8.0	8.3	7.3	7.
February	2,700.0	2,494.2	205.8	7.6	8.5	6.8	7.
March	2,709.9	2,511.0	198.9	7.3	7.9	6.7	7.
April	2,715.7	2,539.0	176.7	6.5	6.9	6.4	7.
May	2,726.4	2,562.8	163.6	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.
June	2,758.7	2,583.6	175.1	6.3	7.5	6.1	7.
July	2,750.3	2,572.9	177.4	6.5	7.0	6.1	6.
August	2,743.1	2,581.9	161.2	5.9	6.8	6.1	7.
September	2,736.5	2,592.1	144.4	5.3	6.6	5.8	6.
October	2,738.9	2,597.6	141.3	5.2	6.3	5.8	7.

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employ and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

Vol.4 No. 11 **Data for** NOVEMBER 1977

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Massachusetts seasonally adjusted unemployment rate declined slightly during November 1977, to 5.7 percent, from last month's rate of 5.8 percent. The national rate also dipped slightly in November to 6.9 percent, from October's 7.0 percent.

These are preliminary figures subject to revision in February 1978 when state figures traditionally are adjusted to labor force data from the Federal Current Population Survey (CPS). It is expected that the federal data will cause a substantial upward revision in the currently published Massachusetts unemployment rate.

The November 1977 employment figure of 2,590,000 represents an increase of 56,200 over last November's figures. Massachusetts unemployment is projected to be 140,300, down 900 from last month's totals. In November 1976 the number of unemployed workers was 205,600.

November totals for manufacturing employment showed an increase of 5,400 over October 1977, to 616,700 workers. In November 1976 manufacturing employment was set at 604,400 workers. Durable goods manufacturing showed an increase of 5,000 workers over last month, and an increase of 10,400 over November 1976. Employment in nondurable goods manufacturing increased in smaller amounts, up 400 over October 1977, and up 1,900 over November of last year. In individual industries the largest yearly net gains were recorded by: machinery (+3,900), electrical machinery (+2,000), other machinery (+3,300) and textile mill products (+2,100). Women's and children's clothing (-900) and printing and publishing (-700) registered the largest yearly losses.

In November there was an increase of 4,100 workers over last month in nonmanufacturing employment. November's total of 1,783,400 workers represents an increase of 41,800 over November of last year. Wholesale and retail trade recorded the largest increase over last month (+4,700). The largest yearly employment gains were made by services (+21,500), wholesale and retail trade (+13,300) and state and local government employment (+6,800). The contract construction industry recorded the largest yearly loss once again (-1,400).

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial	Persistent	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Seasonally Adjusted 5/		
				Nov. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov.R 1976	Nov. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov.R 1976	Nov. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov.R 1976	Nov. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov. 1976	Nov. 1977	Oct. 1977	Nov. 1976
			Massachusetts	2,731,200	2,734,700	2,740,300	2,590,900	2,593,500	2,534,700	140,300	141,200	205,600	5.1	5.2	7.5	5.7	5.8	8.3
			Major Labor Areas															
D			Boston SMSA	1,320,800	1,320,700	1,337,300	1,255,200	1,252,700	1,242,500	65,600	68,000	94,800	5.0	5.1	7.1			
D			Brockton SMSA	76,700	77,500	76,800	72,700	72,900	70,300	4,000	4,600	6,500	5.2	6.0	8.4			
D			Fall River LMA	74,700	75,000	73,900	70,600	71,000	67,800	4,100	4,000	6,100	5.5	5.4	8.3			
D			Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	128,400	128,400	127,100	120,400	120,400	114,900	8,000	8,000	12,200	6.2	6.2	9.6			
D			Lowell LMA	107,000	106,600	105,300	101,500	101,000	96,300	5,500	5,600	9,000	5.2	5.3	8.6			
D			New Bedford LMA	80,100	79,600	78,800	74,600	74,200	70,900	5,500	5,400	7,900	6.9	6.7	10.0			
D			Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	266,800	267,100	264,400	254,500	255,700	246,000	12,300	11,400	18,400	4.6	4.3	6.9			
D			Worcester LMA	192,100	192,600	191,600	184,300	184,600	178,800	7,800	8,000	12,800	4.1	4.1	6.7			
			Other Labor Areas															
			Athol	10,390	10,710	10,740	9,870	10,160	9,890	520	550	850	5.0	5.1	7.9			
			Barnstable County	58,000	60,600	56,700	52,900	56,300	50,000	5,100	4,300	6,700	8.8	7.0	11.7			
			Clinton	9,300	9,390	10,030	8,510	8,580	9,150	790	810	880	8.4	9.0	8.7			
			Dukes County	4,710	4,980	4,650	4,350	4,720	4,200	360	260	450	7.5	5.3	9.6			
			Fitchburg-Leominster	46,400	46,400	46,800	44,000	44,150	43,150	2,400	2,250	3,650	5.1	4.9	7.8			
			Gardner	18,650	18,710	19,960	17,670	17,680	18,310	980	1,030	1,650	5.3	6.0	8.3			
			Gloucester	23,200	23,500	23,500	21,400	21,800	21,400	1,800	1,700	2,100	7.8	7.2	9.0			
			Great Barrington	8,870	9,090	8,670	8,490	8,740	8,130	380	350	540	4.3	3.9	6.2			
			Greenfield	27,430	27,560	28,200	26,210	26,390	26,290	1,220	1,170	1,910	4.4	4.2	6.8			
			Marlboro	44,950	45,400	43,800	43,450	43,850	41,800	1,500	1,550	2,000	3.3	3.4	4.6			
			Milford	18,900	18,950	19,400	18,050	18,100	18,050	850	850	1,350	4.4	4.4	6.9			
			Nantucket	2,630	3,090	2,450	2,470	2,950	2,240	160	140	210	5.9	4.3	8.5			
			Newburyport	17,460	17,140	16,920	16,320	15,990	15,460	1,140	1,150	1,460	6.5	6.7	8.6			
			Pittsfield	67,180	67,220	69,290	63,610	63,630	63,850	3,570	3,590	5,440	5.3	5.3	7.9			
			Plymouth	32,200	32,450	32,110	29,890	30,350	29,210	2,310	2,100	2,900	7.2	6.5	9.0			
			Southbridge	15,980	16,090	15,020	15,370	15,470	14,090	610	620	930	3.8	4.0	6.2			
			Taunton	27,080	30,020	28,600	25,670	28,510	26,830	1,410	1,510	1,770	5.2	5.0	6.2			
			Ware	6,610	6,740	6,980	6,240	6,360	6,260	370	380	720	56.	5.6	10.3			

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

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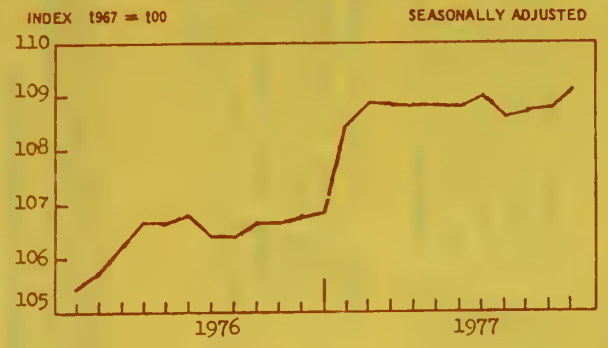
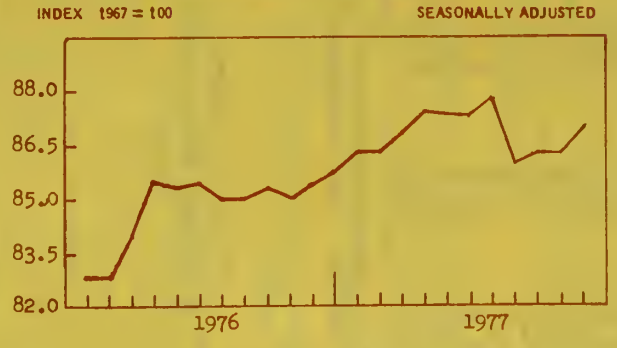
Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment,

EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

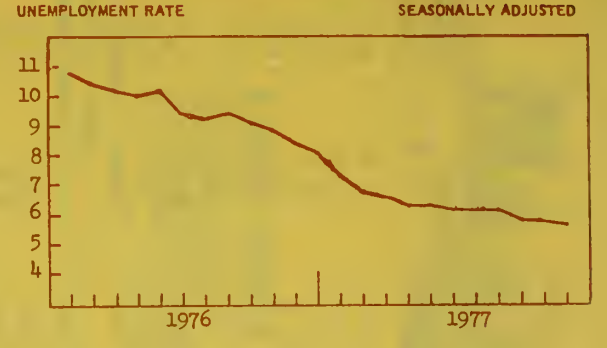
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



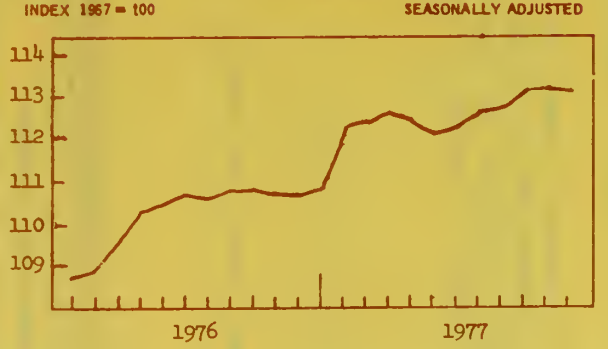
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



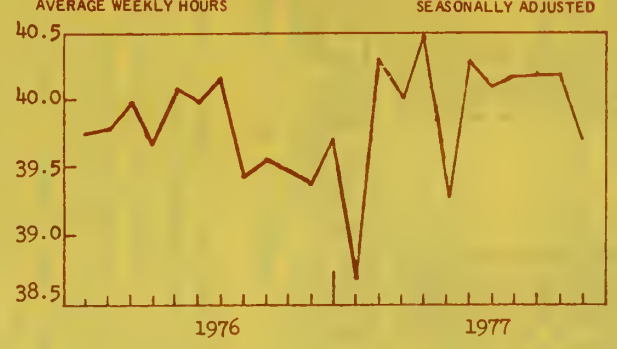
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



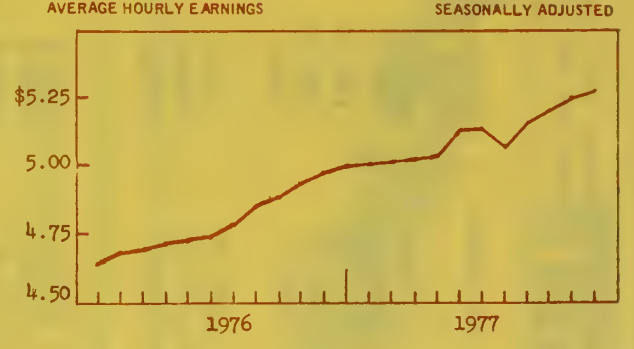
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	November 1977		October 1977		November 1976	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,564.9	92,180.0	2,568.2	91,230.0	2,509.1	88,220.0
The Unemployment Rate	5.7	6.9	5.8	7.0	8.3	8.0
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,368.9	83,217.0	2,363.1	82,905.0	2,315.4	80,127.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	608.9	19,718.0	603.8	19,655.0	596.8	19,070.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.7	40.5	40.2	40.4	39.4	40.1
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.29	$5.81	$5.25	$5.78	$4.97	$5.34

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1972 - 1977

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate			
				Unadjusted		Seasonally Adjuste	
				Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
1972	2,481.0	2,323.0	160.0	6.4	5.6	6.4	5.6
1973	2,562.0	2,391.0	171.0	6.7	4.9	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6	7.2	5.6
1975	2,730.0	2,426.0	304.0	11.2	8.5	11.2	8.5
1976	2,762.0	2,499.0	263.0	9.5	7.7	9.5	7.7
October	2,750.4	2,533.0	217.4	7.9	7.2	8.9	7.9
November	2,740.3	2,534.7	205.6	7.5	7.4	8.3	8.0
December	2,743.6	2,535.0	208.6	7.6	7.4	8.1	7.8
1977							
January	2,702.3	2,486.8	215.5	8.0	8.3	7.3	7.3
February	2,700.0	2,494.2	205.8	7.6	8.5	6.8	7.5
March	2,709.9	2,511.0	198.9	7.3	7.9	6.7	7.3
April	2,715.7	2,539.0	176.7	6.5	6.9	6.4	7.0
May	2,726.4	2,562.8	163.6	6.0	6.4	6.4	6.9
June	2,758.7	2,583.6	175.1	6.3	7.5	6.1	7.1
July	2,750.3	2,572.9	177.4	6.5	7.0	6.1	6.9
August	2,743.1	2,581.9	161.2	5.9	6.8	6.1	7.1
September	2,736.5	2,592.1	144.4	5.3	6.6	5.8	6.9
October	2,734.7	2,593.5	141.2	5.2	6.3	5.8	7.0
November	2,731.2	2,590.9	140.3	5.1	6.4	5.7	6.9

Estimates are prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. Data are adjusted to Employmen and Wage Data of the Division of Employment and the Current Population Survey.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

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Vol. 5 **No.** 1 **Data for** JANUARY 1978

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

The Massachusetts seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor increased during the month of January to 7.5 percent from the December 1977 rate of 5.9 percent. The national unadjusted rate increased in January to 7.0 percent from a December rate of 6.0 percent.

The January 1978 employment figure of 2,606,600 represents a decrease of 18,900 from the previous month, however, it is an increase of 152,000 over the January 1977 level. Massachusetts unemployment is estimated to be 212,200, up 48,500 from December. In January 1977 the number of unemployed residents was 278,700.

Total nonagricultural employment in January decreased from December by 48,900 to 2,361,200. This figure represents an increase of 54,300 from January 1977.

January manufacturing employment showed a decrease of 600 workers from December 1977 to 615,900 workers. This is an increase of 15,000 from the January 1977 totals. Durable goods manufacturing remained unchanged from December but showed an increase of 11,300 from January 1977. Employment in nondurable goods manufacturing decreased by 600 from December but showed an increase of 3,700 workers from January 1977. In individual industries the largest yearly net gains were rewarded by: machinery except electrical (+4,100), fabricated metals (+2,300), and electrical machinery (+2,100). The largest yearly loses were registered by apparel and printing and publishing, both recorded declines of 200.

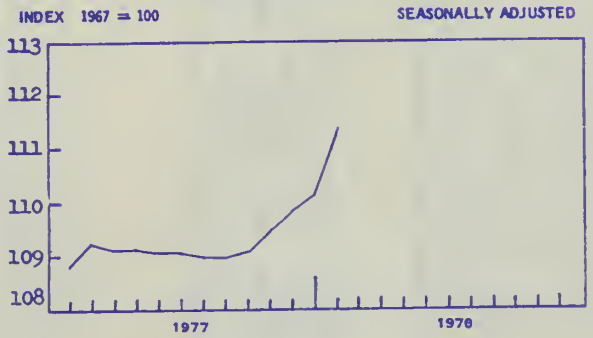
In January nonmanufacturing employment decreased by 48,300 from December to 1,745,400. This is an increase of 39,300 workers from January 1977. The largest yearly employment gains were made by services (+17,200), wholesale and retail trade (+14,300), and state and local government (+10,800). The contract construction industry recorded the largest yearly loss of 4,800.

Amongst the ten largest states Massachusetts unemployment rate went from the second highest to the fifth highest position between 1976 and 1977. This represents a decrease in the state's unemployment rate of 14.7 percent, the most sizeable decline in these large states with the exception of Ohio (-16.7 percent). During the same period New Jersey continued to have the highest unemployment rate and Texas the lowest.

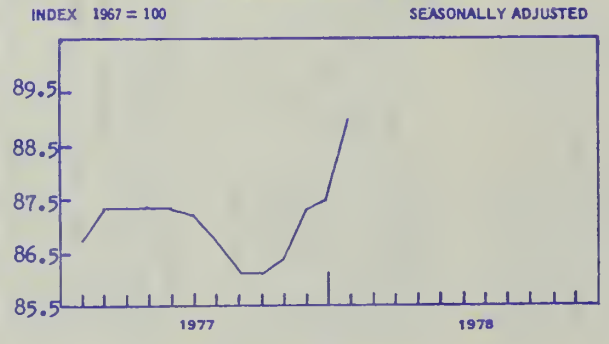
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

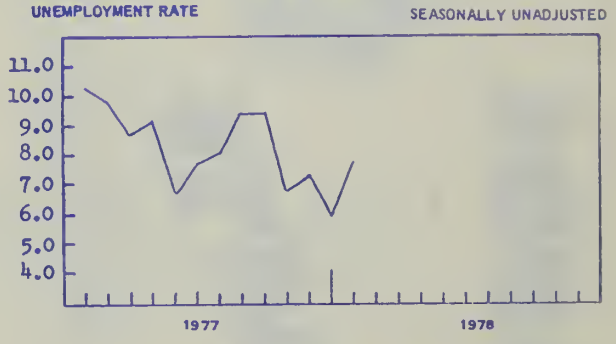
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



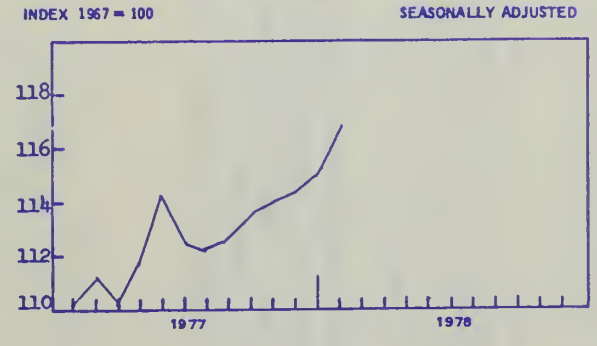
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



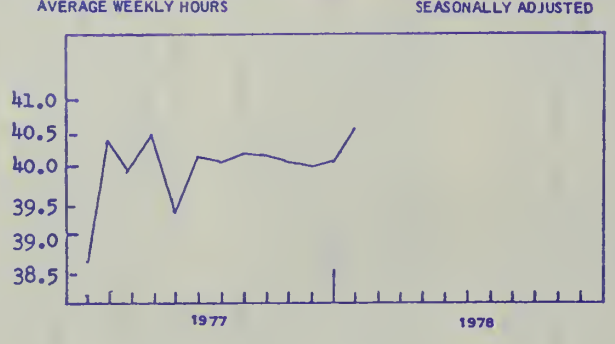
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



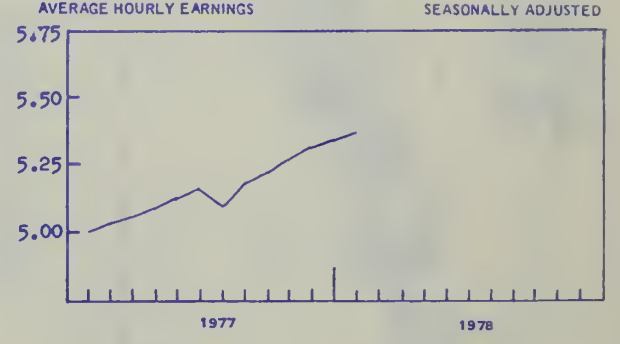
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	January 1978		December 1977		January 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,654.2	92,881.0	2,612.8	92,609.0	2,497.6	88,653.0
The Unemployment Rate*	7.5	6.3	5.9	6.4	10.2	7.4
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,409.2	83,685.0	2,382.9	83,432.0	2,353.7	80,574.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	622.3	19,983.0	613.0	19,879.0	607.0	19,219.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.6	35.0	40.0	36.8	38.7	35.4
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.34	$5.92	$5.30	$5.88	$5.00	$5.46

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial	Persistent	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			Seasonally Adjusted
				Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1978	Dec. 1977	Jan. 1977	No longer available
			Massachusetts	2,818,800	2,789,100	2,733,100	2,606,600	2,625,500	2,454,600	212,200	163,700	278,700	7.5	5.9	10.2	
			Major Labor Areas													
			Boston SMSA	1,357,800	1,346,700	1,325,800	1,263,500	1,273,500	1,202,400	94,300	73,200	123,400	6.9	5.4	9.3	
			Brockton SMSA	78,900	78,800	76,400	72,600	74,100	67,900	6,300	4,700	8,500	8.0	6.0	11.1	
			Fall River LMA	77,000	77,900	74,200	70,900	72,500	65,500	6,100	5,400	8,700	8.0	6.9	11.7	
			Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	136,200	131,900	128,400	124,600	122,400	112,000	11,600	9,500	16,400	8.5	7.2	12.8	
			Lowell LMA	111,400	110,300	106,500	102,400	103,500	94,700	9,000	6,800	11,800	8.0	6.2	11.1	
			New Bedford LMA	83,400	82,000	82,200	74,500	75,200	70,200	8,900	6,800	12,000	10.7	8.2	14.6	
			Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	276,100	272,600	263,300	258,400	258,000	238,800	17,700	14,600	24,500	6.4	5.4	9.3	
			Worcester LMA	198,400	195,400	192,500	185,700	186,500	175,600	12,700	8,900	16,900	6.4	4.6	8.8	
			Other Labor Areas													
			Athol	11,150	11,070	10,550	10,310	10,460	9,420	840	610	1,130	7.6	5.5	10.7	
			Barnstable County	55,720	56,360	54,800	47,170	49,940	44,570	8,550	6,420	10,230	15.3	11.4	18.7	
			Clinton	9,540	9,360	10,070	8,480	8,530	9,030	1,060	830	1,040	11.2	8.9	10.3	
			Dukes County	4,250	4,750	4,270	3,540	4,350	3,500	710	400	770	16.7	8.4	18.1	
			Fitchburg-Leominster	48,400	47,450	48,000	44,850	44,550	43,100	3,550	2,900	4,900	7.3	6.1	10.2	
			Gardner	19,290	18,990	19,860	17,740	17,820	17,690	1,550	1,170	2,170	8.0	6.2	11.0	
			Gloucester	23,830	23,840	22,940	20,450	21,320	19,430	3,380	2,520	3,510	14.2	10.6	15.3	
			Great Barrington	9,260	9,560	9,110	8,670	9,140	8,460	590	420	650	6.4	4.4	7.2	
			Greenfield	28,510	27,270	26,750	26,390	25,780	23,810	2,120	1,490	2,940	7.4	5.5	11.0	
			Marlboro	52,900	51,950	45,900	50,400	50,200	43,100	2,500	1,750	2,800	4.8	3.4	6.1	
			Milford	19,870	18,230	18,050	18,420	17,280	16,230	1,450	950	1,820	7.3	5.2	10.1	
			Nantucket	2,430	2,320	2,420	2,130	2,130	2,070	300	190	350	12.4	8.3	14.3	
			Newburyport	18,660	17,670	16,840	16,970	16,360	14,830	1,690	1,310	2,010	9.0	7.4	11.9	
			Pittsfield	69,960	68,850	69,340	64,790	64,530	62,230	5,170	4,320	7,110	7.4	6.3	10.2	
			Plymouth	32,250	32,400	32,460	27,950	29,420	26,960	4,300	2,980	5,500	13.3	9.2	16.9	
			Southbridge	16,380	15,440	15,100	15,380	14,710	13,920	1,000	730	1,180	6.1	4.7	7.8	
			Taunton	26,130	25,560	25,170	23,590	23,660	22,240	2,540	1,900	2,930	9.7	7.4	11.6	
			Ware	6,920	6,650	7,300	6,300	6,200	6,300	620	450	1,000	9.0	6.7	13.6	

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

*/*Area Classification*

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Major labor areas classified in Groups D, E, and F are regarded as areas of "substantial unemployment." Groups A, B, and C range from overall labor shortage to moderate unemployment. The Department of Labor also classifies several hundred other areas when they meet the substantial unemployment criteria. These areas are not placed in specific letter classification categories. Areas of less than 1,500 population may be "certified" by State employment security agencies, upon authorization by the Department, as areas of substantial or persistent unemployment. Such areas are not included in the list of classified areas.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1973	2,561.0	2,390.0	171.0	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
January	2,733.1	2,454.6	278.7	10.2	8.3
February	2,731.3	2,465.9	265.4	9.7	8.5
March	2,696.0	2,462.0	234.0	8.7	7.9
April	2,746.9	2,499.0	248.0	9.0	6.9
May	2,769.3	2,585.4	184.0	6.6	6.4
June	2,820.7	2,602.5	218.3	7.7	7.5
July	2,822.8	2,603.9	218.3	7.8	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2.605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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Employment
Unemployment

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Vol. 5 No. 2 **Data for** FEBRUARY 1978

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Massachusetts seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor decreased by 0.4 percentage points in February to 7.1 percent. January's unemployment rate was 7.5 percent. The national unemployment rate also dipped slightly to 6.9 percent from January's 7.0 percent.

The February 1978 employment figure of 2,594,000 is down 12,600 from January's 2,606,600, however, it represents an increase of 128,100 from the preceding February. Massachusetts unemployment is down 12,200 from January and 65,400 from February 1977. The number of unemployed individual in February was 200,000. It should be noted that Massachusetts' labor force figures now being estimated are based upon a statistical sample and caution should be taken in comparing monthly data.

Total nonagricultural employment in February increased by 1,600 from January and 49,500 from February 1978. Total nonagricultural employment for February was 2,362,800.

February totals for manufacturing employment, 614,500 showed a decrease of 800 from January. In February 1977 manufacturing employment was set at 603,100 which indicate a yearly increase of 11,400. Durable and nondurable goods each decreased by 400 from January. In February durable goods were 343,800 and nondurable goods were 270,700. Both displayed increases of 10,300 and 1,100 respectively over the year. In individual industries the largest yearly net gains were recorded by: fabricated metals (+3,700) and nonelectrical machinery (+2,900). Apparel (-1,300) registered the largest yearly loss. Other industries which recorded losses from February 1977 were paper and allied products and printing and publishing.

Nonmanufacturing in February increased by 2,400 from the preceding month. February's total of 1,748,300 workers represent an increase of 38,100 over last year. The largest yearly employment gains were made by services (+20,100), wholesale and retail trade (+13,600), and state and local government (+8,300). The contract construction industry (-5,400) recorded the largest yearly loss.

Employment in construction (-3,000) and wholesale and retail trade (-5,200) experienced seasonal declines from the preceding month. Other temporary decreases in employment occurred during February as a result of the severe winter snowstorm which took place in the early part of the month.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

Area Classification* Letter	Substantial	Persistent	MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted			Seasonally Adjusted 5/
				Feb. 1978	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977	Feb. 1978	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977	Feb. 1978	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977	Feb. 1978	Jan. 1978	Feb. 1977	NO LONGER AVAILABLE
			Massachusetts	2,794,000	2,818,800	2,731,300	2,594,000	2,606,600	2,465,900	200,000	212,200	265,400	7.1	7.5	9.7	
			Major Labor Areas													
N			Boston SMSA	1,346,800	1,357,800	1,322,100	1,254,900	1,263,500	1,203,000	91,900	94,300	119,100	6.8	6.9	9.0	
O			Brockton SMSA	78,500	78,900	76,800	72,200	72,600	68,400	6,300	6,300	8,400	8.1	8.0	10.9	
			Fall River LMA	76,600	77,000	74,400	70,300	70,900	65,900	6,300	6,100	8,500	8.2	8.0	11.4	
L			Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	136,200	136,200	128,200	125,900	124,600	113,100	10,300	11,600	15,100	7.6	8.5	11.8	
			Lowell LMA	111,600	111,400	106,000	103,600	102,400	95,300	8,000	9,000	10,700	7.2	8.0	10.1	
O			New Bedford LMA	81,900	83,400	80,800	74,000	74,500	70,200	7,900	8,900	10,600	9.7	10.7	13.1	
N			Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	276,500	276,100	269,700	260,600	258,400	246,400	15,900	17,700	23,300	5.7	6.4	8.6	
G			Worcester LMA	195,800	198,400	191,200	184,300	185,700	176,200	11,500	12,700	15,000	5.9	6.4	7.9	
E			*Other Labor Areas*													
R			Athol	10,980	11,150	10,570	10,230	10,310	9,490	750	840	1,080	6.8	7.6	10.2	
A			Barnstable County	54,060	55,720	53,910	46,580	47,170	44,290	7,480	8,550	9,620	13.8	15.3	17.9	
V			Clinton	9,400	9,540	10,270	8,440	8,480	9,170	960	1,060	1,100	10.2	11.2	10.8	
A			Dukes County	4,130	4,250	4,300	3,480	3,540	3,460	650	710	840	15.8	16.7	19.6	
I			Fitchburg-Leominster	48,300	48,400	48,000	44,800	44,850	43,150	3,500	3,550	4,850	7.2	7.3	10.1	
L			Gardner	18,850	19,290	19,430	17,580	17,740	17,320	1,270	1,550	2,110	6.7	8.0	10.9	
A			Gloucester	23,350	23,830	22,680	20,740	20,450	19,590	2,610	3,380	3,090	11.2	14.2	13.6	
B			Great Barrington	9,070	9,260	8,950	8,510	8,670	8,300	560	590	650	6.2	6.4	7.3	
L			Greenfield	27,890	28,510	26,650	26,090	26,390	23,830	1,800	2,120	2,820	6.5	7.4	10.6	
E			Marlboro	52,050	52,900	46,150	49,550	50,400	43,450	2,500	2,500	2,700	4.8	4.8	5.9	
			Milford	20,020	19,870	18,040	18,660	18,420	16,260	1,360	1,450	1,780	6.8	7.3	9.9	
			Nantucket	2,280	2,430	2,550	2,020	2,130	2,070	260	300	380	11.5	12.4	15.7	
			Newburyport	18,210	18,650	16,810	16,730	16,960	14,810	1,480	1,690	2,000	8.1	9.0	11.9	
			Pittsfield	69,150	69,950	69,500	64,350	64,800	62,150	4,800	5,150	7,350	7.0	7.4	10.6	
			Plymouth	31,600	32,250	32,070	27,480	27,950	26,960	4,120	4,300	5,110	13.0	13.3	15.9	
			Southbridge	16,440	16,380	15,100	15,510	15,380	13,910	930	1,000	1,190	5.7	6.1	7.9	
			Taunton	24,960	26,130	25,010	22,610	23,590	22,180	2,350	2,540	2,830	9.4	9.7	11.3	
			Ware	6,870	6,920	7,225	6,280	6,300	6,300	590	620	925	8.6	9.0	12.8	

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

5/ *Seasonally Adjusted* - The effects of seasonal changes have been removed from the data to reveal the underlying trend.

*Area Classification

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Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

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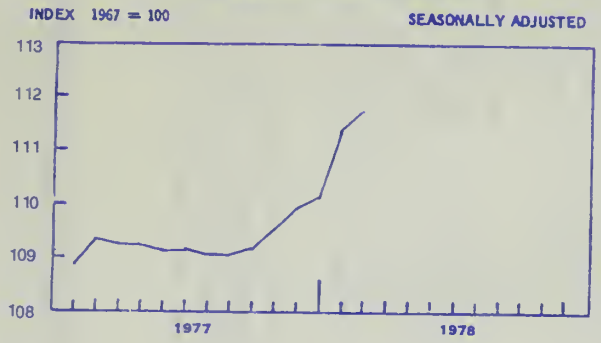
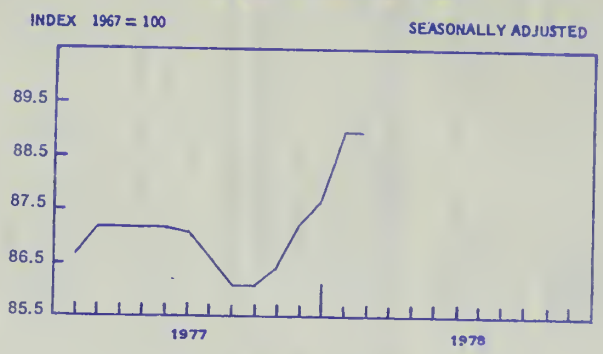
Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

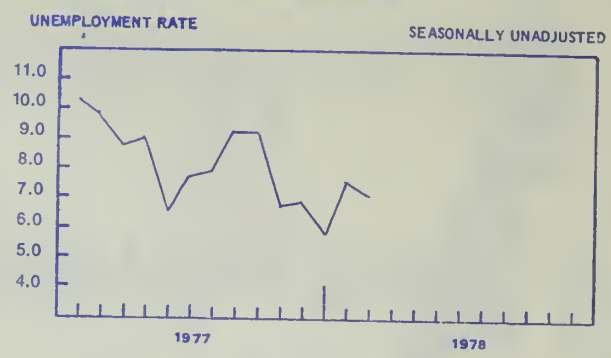
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



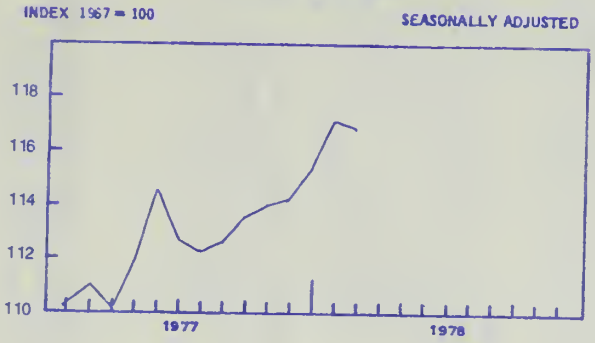
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



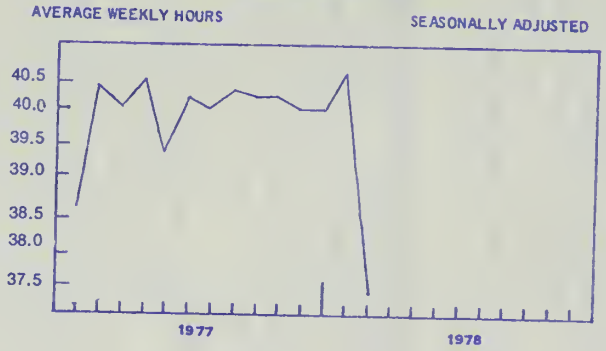
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



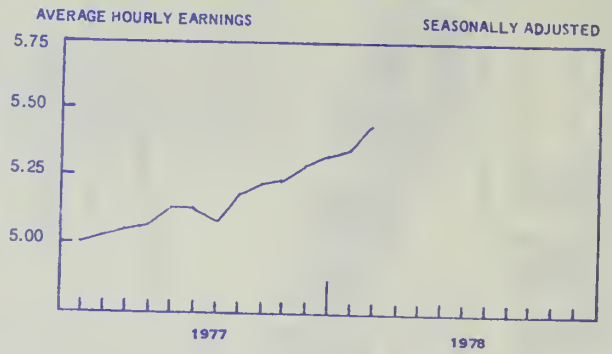
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	February 1978		January 1978		February 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,646.7	93,003.0	2,654.2	92,881.0	2,514.6	89,047.0
The Unemployment Rate*	7.1	6.9	7.5	7.0	9.7	8.5
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,414.6	84,074.0	2,409.2	83,725.0	2,364.1	80,870.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	621.9	20,093.0	622.3	19,975.0	610.3	19,278.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	37.3	39.9	40.6	39.6	40.4	40.3
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.43	$5.92	$5.34	$5.92	$5.02	$5.43

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rat Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1973	2,561.0	2,390.0	171.0	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
January	2,733.1	2,454.6	278.7	10.2	8.3
February	2,731.3	2,465.9	265.4	9.7	8.5
March	2,696.0	2,462.0	234.0	8.7	7.9
April	2,746.9	2,499.0	248.0	9.0	6.9
May	2,769.3	2,585.4	184.0	6.6	6.4
June	2,820.7	2,602.5	218.3	7.7	7.5
July	2,822.8	2,603.9	218.3	7.8	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2.605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0
February	**2,794.0**	**2,594.0**	**200.0**	**7.1**	**6.9**

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION MAY 15 1978

Vol. 5 No. 3 Data for MARCH 1978

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Massachusetts seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor decreased for the third consecutive month by 0.9 percentage points in March to 6.2 percent. February's unemployment rate was 7.1 percent and January's rate was 7.5 percent. The national seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate also declined for the third consecutive month to 6.6 percent. The national rates for February and January were 6.9 percent and 7.0 percent respectively.

The March 1978 employment figure of 2,627,000 is up 33,000 from February's 2,594,000. March employment also shows an increase of 165,000 from a year ago, an increase of 6.7 percent. Massachusetts unemployment is down 28,000 from February and 62,000 from March 1977. The number of unemployed individuals in March was 172,000. It should be noted that Massachusetts labor force figures now being estimated are based upon a statistical sample and caution should be used in comparing monthly data.

Total nonagricultural employment for March was 2,381,800. This is an increase of 17,700 from February 1978 and 57,700 from March 1977. Manufacturing employment in March was 621,600, an increase of 6,900 from February or 1.1 percent and an increase of 17,200 from March 1977. Durable and nondurable goods each increased from February. In March durable goods employment was 347,300 and nondurable goods employment 274,300. Both displayed increases of 13,300 and 3,900 respectively over the year. In individual industries the largest yearly percentage gains were recorded by: lumber and wood (+9.6 percent); and fabricated metals, particularly cutlery (+13.6 percent). Industries which recorded yearly losses were womens apparel (-7.3 percent); leather tanning and finishing (-3.8 percent); and printing (- 0.7 percent).

Nonmanufacturing employment in March increased by 11,300 from the preceding month. March's total of 2,140,000 workers represents an increase of 48,300 over last year. Although over the year increases occurred in transportation, wholesale and retail trade, services, and government, declines were experienced by finance, insurance and real estate, and contract construction. Construction employment in March was 57,300, a decrease of 3,200 workers from the preceding year.

In 1978 Massachusetts continues to show positive improvement in unemployment. Between 1976 and 1977 the Massachusetts unemployment rate went from the second highest to the fifth highest position among the ten largest states. In the first quarter of this year this state had the fourth lowest unemployment rate.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	March 1978	Feb. 1978	March 1977	March 1978	Feb. 1978	March 1977	March 1978	Feb. 1978	March 1977	March 1978	Feb. 1978	March 1977
Massachusetts	2,799,000	2,794,000	2,696,300	2,627,000	2,594,000	2,462,000	172,000	200,000	234,000	6.2	7.1	8.7
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,348,900	1,346,800	1,307,000	1,269,900	1,254,900	1,202,200	79,000	91,900	104,800	5.9	6.8	8.0
Brockton SMSA	77,700	78,500	75,500	72,800	72,200	68,000	4,900	6,300	7,500	6.3	8.1	9.9
Fall River LMA	76,200	76,600	72,800	71,100	70,300	65,400	5,100	6,300	7,400	6.7	8.2	10.2
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	138,100	136,200	128,200	129,200	125,900	114,700	8,900	10,300	13,500	6.5	7.6	10.5
Lowell LMA	111,700	111,600	104,600	104,800	103,600	95,100	6,900	8,000	9,500	6.2	7.2	9.1
New Bedford LMA	82,000	81,900	79,400	75,200	74,000	70,400	6,800	7,900	9,000	8.3	9.7	11.3
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	272,000	276,500	266,100	262,400	260,600	245,100	14,600	15,900	21,000	5.3	5.8	7.9
Worcester LMA	196,500	195,800	188,900	186,400	184,300	175,200	10,100	11,500	13,700	5.2	5.9	7.3
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	10,840	10,980	10,450	10,260	10,230	9,540	580	750	910	5.4	6.8	8.7
Barnstable County	53,930	54,060	53,200	47,350	46,580	44,950	6,580	7,480	8,250	12.2	13.8	15.5
Clinton	9,330	9,400	10,090	8,530	8,440	9,180	800	960	910	8.6	10.2	9.1
Dukes County	4,120	4,130	4,260	3,590	3,480	3,510	530	650	750	12.8	15.8	17.6
Fitchburg-Leominster	48,250	48,300	47,000	45,350	44,800	42,800	2,900	3,500	4,200	6.0	7.2	9.0
Gardner	18,990	18,850	18,960	17,890	17,580	17,230	1,100	1,270	1,730	5.8	6.7	9.1
Gloucester	23,760	23,350	22,330	21,410	20,740	19,650	2,350	2,610	2,680	9.9	11.2	12.0
Great Barrington	8,840	9,070	8,700	8,370	8,510	8,100	470	560	600	5.3	6.2	6.9
Greenfield	27,930	27,890	26,250	26,210	26,090	23,730	1,720	1,800	2,520	6.1	6.5	9.6
Marlboro	52,150	52,050	45,800	49,950	49,550	43,450	2,200	2,500	2,350	4.2	4.8	5.2
Milford	20,180	20,020	17,910	19,070	18,660	16,380	1,110	1,360	1,530	5.5	6.8	8.5
Nantucket	2,270	2,280	2,390	2,060	2,020	2,070	210	260	320	9.4	11.5	13.5
Newburyport	18,350	18,210	16,550	16,950	16,730	14,800	1,400	1,480	1,750	7.6	8.1	10.6
Pittsfield	68,890	69,150	68,370	64,340	64,350	61,820	4,550	4,800	6,550	6.6	7.0	9.6
Plymouth	31,480	31,600	31,450	28,100	27,480	27,020	3,380	4,120	4,430	10.7	13.0	14.1
Southbridge	16,370	16,440	14,810	15,590	15,510	13,780	780	930	1,030	4.8	5.7	6.9
Taunton	25,055	24,960	24,705	23,025	22,610	22,230	2,030	2,350	2,475	8.1	9.4	10.0
Ware	6,890	6,870	6,880	6,400	6,280	6,110	490	590	770	7.1	8.6	11.2

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

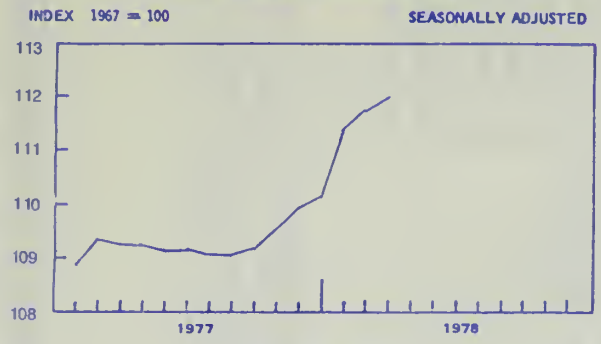
4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

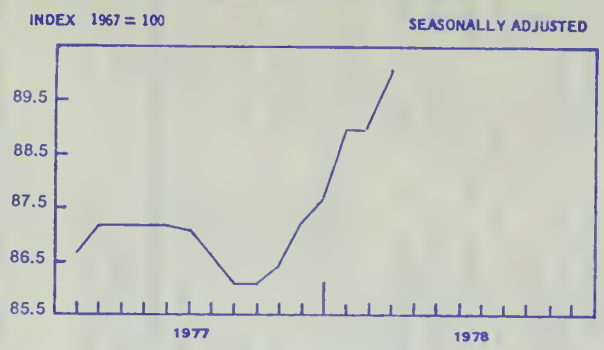
Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends In Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

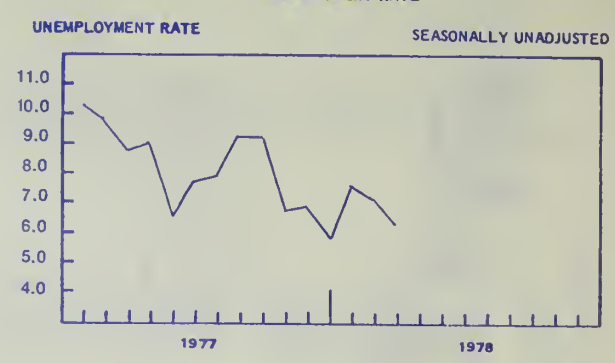
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



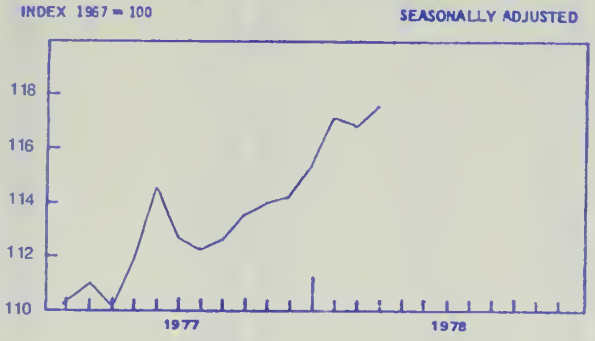
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



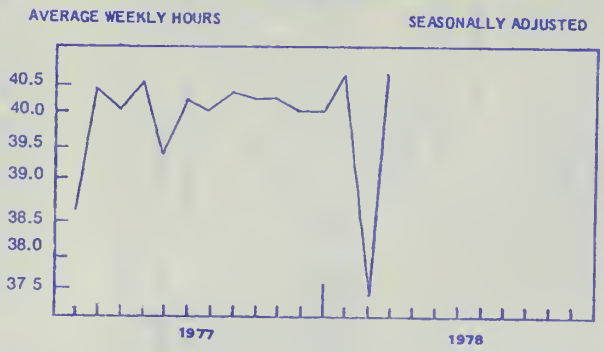
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



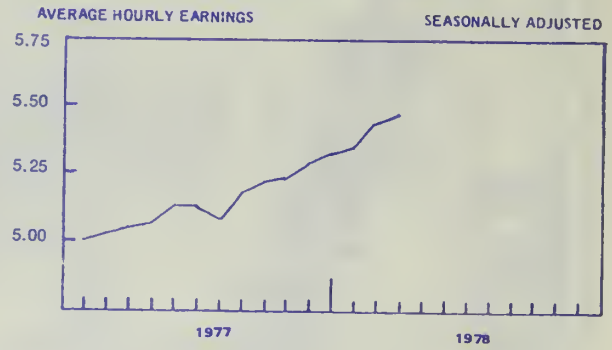
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	March 1978		February 1978		March 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,664.4	93,266.0	2,646.7	93,003.0	2,496.6	89,478.0
The Unemployment Rate*	6.2	6.6	7.1	6.9	8.7	7.9
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,420.1	84,498.0	2,416.0	84,055.0	2,361.4	81,331.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	627.6	20,146.0	622.1	20,071.0	610.1	19,417.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.6	40.5	37.3	40.0	40.0	40.4
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.44	$5.96	$5.43	$5.94	$5.04	$5.48

ø in 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rat Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1973	2,561.0	2,390.0	171.0	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
January	2,733.1	2,454.6	278.7	10.2	8.3
February	2,731.3	2,465.9	265.4	9.7	8.5
March	2,696.0	2,462.0	234.0	8.7	7.9
April	2,746.9	2,499.0	248.0	9.0	6.9
May	2,769.3	2,585.4	184.0	6.6	6.4
June	2,820.7	2,602.5	218.3	7.7	7.5
July	2,822.8	2,603.9	218.3	7.8	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2,605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0
February	2,794.0	2,594.0	200.0	7.1	6.9
March	2,799.0	2,627.0	172.0	6.2	6.6

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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Vol. 5 No. 4 Data for APRIL 1978

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Massachusetts' seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor decreased for the fourth consecutive month by 0.5 percentage points to 5.7 percent. April's rate represents a considerable improvement over January's 7.5 percent and last April's 9.0 percent. The Massachusetts' rate has followed the National rate which has also dropped for the fourth consecutive month. The National seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate for April was 5.8 percent.

The April 1978 employment figure of 2,635,000 is up 8,000 from March's 2,627,000. April employment is 5.4 percent higher than last year's figures. The number of unemployed individuals in April was 160,000 which is lower by 12,000 individuals from March and down 88,000 from April 1977. It should be noted that Massachusetts' labor force figures are being estimated based upon a statistical sample and caution should be used in comparing monthly data, however since April represents the fourth consecutive month of improvement in the figures there is a definite positive trend in the state's economic upturn.

Total nonagricultural employment for April was 2,434,800. This is an increase of 49,300 from March 1978 and 85,100 from April 1977 or a rise of 3.6 percent. Manufacturing employment in April was 624,200, an increase of 2,600 from the previous month and 18,000 higher than April 1977. Durable and nondurable employment increased during April. In April durable goods employment was 349,600 and nondurable goods employment was 274,600. Both displayed increases of 13,100 and 4,900 respectively over the year. In individual industries the largest yearly gains were recorded by electrical machinery (+4,400), nonelectrical machinery (+2,700), and fabricated metal products (+2,400). Industries which recorded yearly losses were apparel (-800), printing and publishing (-600), and furniture and fixtures (-200).

Nonmanufacturing employment in April increased by 46,700 from the preceding month. April's total of 1,810,600 workers represents an increase of 67,100 over last year. The largest yearly employment gains were made by services, miscellaneous, and mining (+33,300), wholesale and retail trade (+18,400) and government (+10,400).

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	April 1978	March 1978	April 1977	April 1978	March 1978	April 1977	April 1978	March 1978	April 1977	April 1978	March 1978	April 1977
Massachusetts	2,794,000	2,799,000	2,747,000	2,635,000	2,627,000	2,499,000	160,000	172,000	248,000	5.7	6.2	9.0
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,343,700	1,348,900	1,323,700	1,269,300	1,269,900	1,209,300	74,400	79,000	114,400	5.5	5.9	8.6
Brockton SMSA	78,100	77,700	77,100	73,600	72,800	69,100	4,500	4,900	8,000	5.8	6.3	10.4
Fall River LMA	76,700	76,200	75,000	71,500	71,100	67,300	5,200	5,100	7,700	6.8	6.7	10.2
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	138,000	138,100	129,700	129,700	129,200	116,100	8,300	8,900	13,600	6.0	6.5	10.5
Lowell LMA	110,400	111,700	105,900	104,000	104,800	96,300	6,400	6,900	9,600	5.8	6.2	9.0
New Bedford LMA	81,500	82,000	81,900	75,800	75,200	72,200	5,700	6,800	9,700	7.0	8.3	11.8
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	276,000	277,000	270,300	261,500	262,400	248,600	14,500	14,600	21,700	5.2	5.3	8.0
Worcester LMA	195,000	196,500	190,800	185,700	186,400	176,500	9,300	10,100	14,300	4.8	5.2	7.5
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	10,680	10,840	10,730	10,170	10,260	9,750	510	580	980	4.7	5.4	9.1
Barnstable County	58,540	53,930	57,530	53,230	47,350	49,850	5,310	6,580	7,680	9.1	12.2	13.4
Clinton	9,420	9,330	10,010	8,680	8,530	8,950	740	800	1,060	7.9	8.6	10.6
Dukes County	4,520	4,120	4,880	4,180	3,590	4,210	340	530	670	7.6	12.8	13.8
Fitchburg-Leominster	47,370	48,250	47,650	44,850	45,350	43,000	2,520	2,900	4,650	5.3	6.0	9.8
Gardner	18,720	18,990	19,300	17,750	17,890	17,450	970	1,100	1,850	5.2	5.8	9.6
Gloucester	23,320	23,760	23,730	21,170	21,410	21,110	2,150	2,350	2,620	9.2	9.9	11.0
Great Barrington	8,820	8,840	9,070	8,360	8,370	8,440	460	470	630	5.2	5.3	7.0
Greenfield	27,790	27,930	27,560	26,110	26,210	24,990	1,680	1,720	2,570	6.0	6.1	9.3
Marlboro	52,300	52,150	48,750	50,200	49,950	46,100	2,100	2,200	2,650	4.0	4.2	5.5
Milford	20,110	20,180	18,550	19,060	19,070	16,880	1,050	1,110	1,670	5.2	5.5	9.0
Nantucket	2,520	2,270	2,700	2,350	2,060	2,380	170	210	320	6.7	9.4	12.0
Newburyport	18,240	18,350	16,970	17,020	16,950	15,080	1,220	1,400	1,890	6.7	7.6	11.1
Pittsfield	67,670	68,890	69,810	63,540	64,340	62,570	4,130	4,550	7,240	6.1	6.6	10.4
Plymouth	32,350	31,480	32,530	29,510	28,100	28,580	2,840	3,380	3,950	8.8	10.7	13.2
Southbridge	16,030	16,370	15,070	15,410	15,590	13,970	620	780	1,100	3.8	4.8	7.3
Taunton	26,480	25,055	21,165	24,715	23,025	23,810	1,765	2,030	2,355	6.7	8.1	9.0
Ware	6,770	6,890	7,100	6,330	6,400	6,280	440	490	820	6.5	7.1	11.6

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

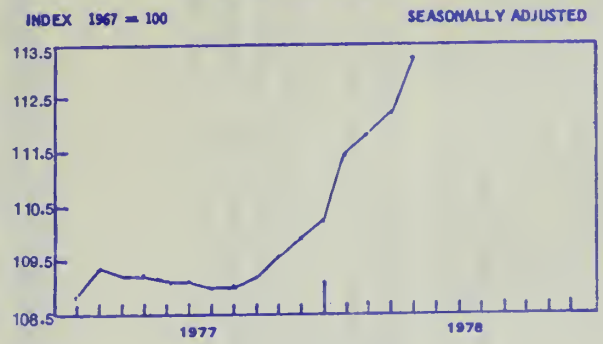
4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

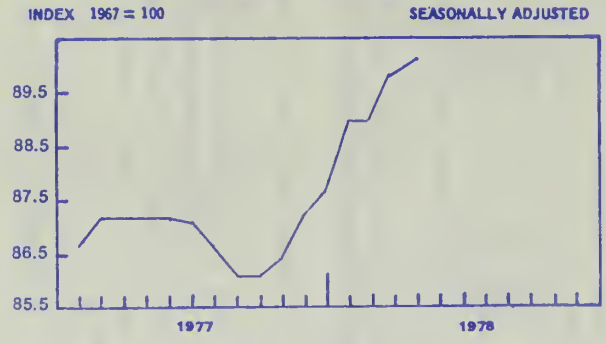
Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

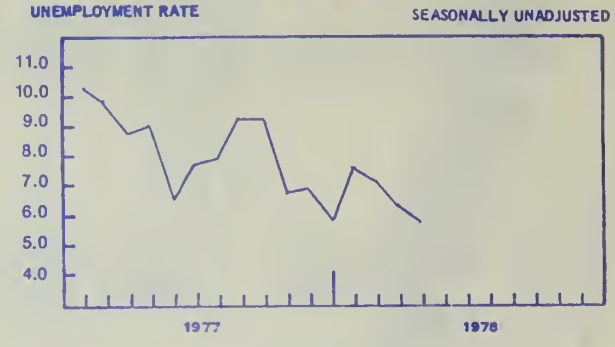
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



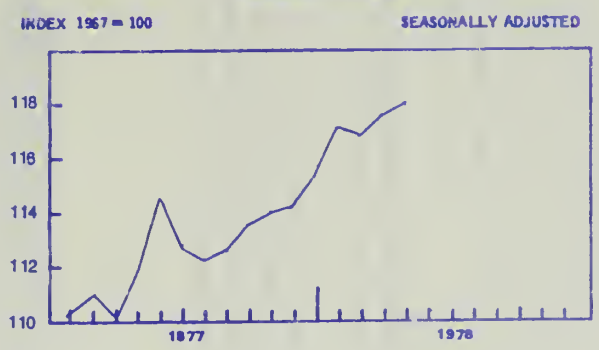
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



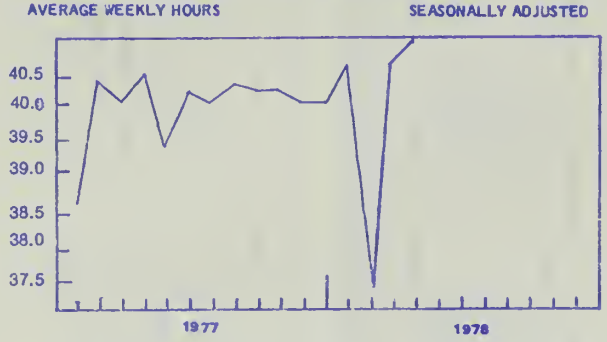
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



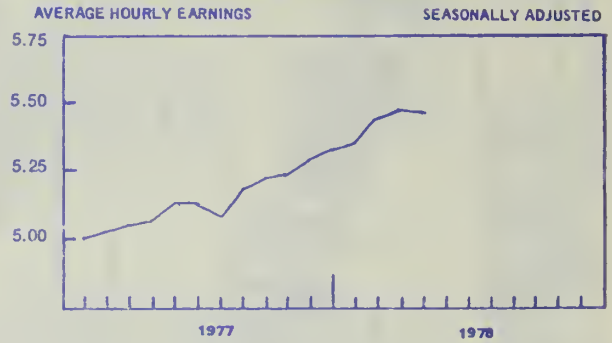
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	April 1978		March 1978		April 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,675.0	93,801.0	2,664.4	93,266.0	2,536.5	89,877.0
The Unemployment Rate*	5.7	5.8	6.2	6.6	9.0	6.9
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,447.6	85,156.0	2,423.8	84,537.0	2,362.0	81,620.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	628.6	20,224.0	627.6	20,164.0	6,105.0	19,499.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	41.0	40.5	40.6	40.5	40.5	40.3
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.43	$5.96	$5.44	$5.94	$5.06	$5.52

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1973	2,561.0	2,390.0	171.0	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
April	2,746.9	2,499.0	248.0	9.0	6.9
May	2,769.3	2,585.4	184.0	6.6	6.4
June	2,820.7	2,602.5	218.3	7.7	7.5
July	2,822.8	2,603.9	218.3	7.8	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2,605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0
February	2,794.0	2,594.0	200.0	7.1	6.9
March	2,799.0	2,627.0	172.0	6.2	6.6
April	2,794.0	2,635.0	160.0	5.7	6.0

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

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Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 5 No. 5 Data for MAY 1978

MAY HIGHLIGHTS

Massachusetts' seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor decreased for the fifth consecutive month by 0.3 percentage points to 5.4 percent, the lowest rate since the prerecessionary month of July 1973. May's rate represents steady improvement compared to January's 7.5 percent and last May's 6.6 percent. The Massachusetts seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate has continued to follow the nation's which has also declined in the past five months since January, however the national seasonally adjusted rate did rise during May by 0.1 percent to 6.1 percent. At the present time Massachusetts unemployment figures are unable to be seasonally adjusted.

Unemployment among Massachusetts residents during May reached the lowest point since August 1973 at 152,000 - a 17 percent drop from the 184,000 unemployed last year, and a 5 percent drop from April. The May 1978 employment figure of 2,653,900 is up 18,900 from April's 2,635,000 workers, and up 0.7 percent over last year's figures. It is important to remember that Massachusetts labor force figures are estimates which are based upon a statistical sample and caution should be used in comparing monthly data. However since May represents the fifth consecutive month of improvement in both state and national figures, there is a definite positive improvement in the state's employment situation.

Total nonagricultural employment increased by 17,900 jobs in May from April and by 96,700 jobs or 4 percent since last year. Manufacturing employment was up 2,000 from April and 26,500 or 4.3 percent from May of last year with increases in both durable and nondurable goods. Each displayed gains of 18,500 and 8,000 respectively over the year. The industries which displayed the largest yearly gains were electrical machinery (+8,100), machinery except electrical (+4,200), other nondurable goods (+2,600), and transportation equipment (+2,100).

Over the past year nonmanufacturing employment increased by 70,200 or 4 percent. During this period all nonmanufacturing industries registered employment gains.

Labor force developments in all eight of the state's major metropolitan areas mirrored the performance of the state with all areas registering declines in their rates of unemployment. The New Bedford labor area posted the highest rate of 6.6 percent while the Worcester area was the lowest with 4.5 percent of the labor force unemployed.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	May 1978	April 1978	May 1977	May 1978	April 1978	May 1977	May 1978	April 1978	May 1977	May 1978	April 1978	May 1977
Massachusetts	2,805,900	2,794,000	2,769,300	2,653,900	2,635,000	2,585,400	152,000	160,000	184,000	5.4	5.7	6.6
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,345,600	1,343,700	1,334,200	1,273,100	1,269,300	1,248,100	72,500	74,400	86,100	5.4	5.5	6.5
Brockton SMSA	78,700	78,100	77,000	74,500	73,600	71,100	4,200	4,500	5,900	5.4	5.8	7.6
Fall River LMA	77,200	76,700	74,600	73,000	71,500	69,300	4,200	5,200	5,300	5.5	6.8	7.1
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	138,300	138,000	130,600	130,700	129,700	120,100	7,600	8,300	10,500	5.5	6.0	8.0
Lowell LMA	110,400	110,400	107,200	104,500	104,000	99,600	5,900	6,400	7,500	5.4	5.8	7.0
New Bedford LMA	82,000	81,500	81,600	76,600	75,800	74,700	5,400	5,700	6,900	6.6	7.0	8.4
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	276,800	276,000	272,900	262,600	261,500	256,800	14,200	14,500	16,100	5.1	5.2	5.9
Worcester LMA	195,200	195,000	192,100	186,400	185,700	181,600	8,800	9,300	10,500	4.5	4.8	5.5
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	10,790	10,680	10,910	10,300	10,170	10,160	490	510	750	4.5	4.7	6.9
Barnstable County	62,430	58,540	60,710	57,750	53,230	55,430	4,680	5,310	5,280	7.5	9.1	8.7
Clinton	9,300	9,420	9,745	8,650	8,680	8,720	650	740	1,025	6.9	7.9	10.5
Dukes County	5,040	4,520	5,200	4,790	4,180	4,850	250	340	350	4.9	7.6	6.8
Fitchburg-Leominster	47,420	47,370	47,405	45,050	44,850	44,080	2,370	2,520	3,325	5.0	5.3	7.0
Gardner	18,990	18,720	19,300	17,850	17,750	17,880	1,140	970	1,420	6.0	5.2	7.3
Gloucester	24,160	23,320	24,030	22,280	21,170	22,170	1,880	2,150	1,860	7.8	9.2	7.7
Great Barrington	8,870	8,820	9,380	8,460	8,360	8,900	410	460	480	4.6	5.2	5.1
Greenfield	27,880	27,790	27,820	26,400	26,110	26,040	1,480	1,680	1,780	5.3	6.0	6.4
Marlboro	52,050	52,300	49,900	50,050	50,200	48,050	2,000	2,100	1,850	3.9	4.0	3.7
Milford	20,180	20,110	18,620	19,210	19,060	17,390	970	1,050	1,230	4.8	5.2	6.6
Nantucket	3,000	2,520	3,110	2,840	2,350	2,900	160	170	210	5.2	6.7	6.7
Newburyport	18,160	18,240	17,030	17,060	17,020	15,640	1,100	1,220	1,390	6.1	6.7	8.2
Pittsfield	67,770	67,670	68,250	63,720	63,540	63,070	4,050	4,130	5,180	6.0	6.1	7.6
Plymouth	33,010	32,350	32,860	30,440	29,510	29,900	2,570	2,840	2,960	7.8	8.8	9.0
Southbridge	16,140	16,030	15,470	15,520	15,410	14,640	620	620	830	3.8	3.8	5.4
Taunton	26,220	26,480	27,070	24,640	24,715	25,270	1,580	1,765	1,800	6.0	6.7	6.7
Ware	6,720	6,770	7,180	6,340	6,330	6,620	380	440	560	5.7	6.5	7.8

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

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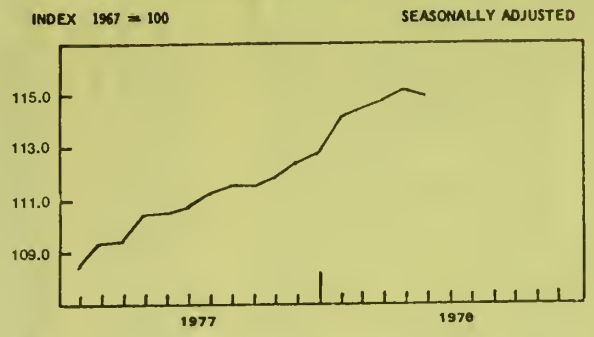
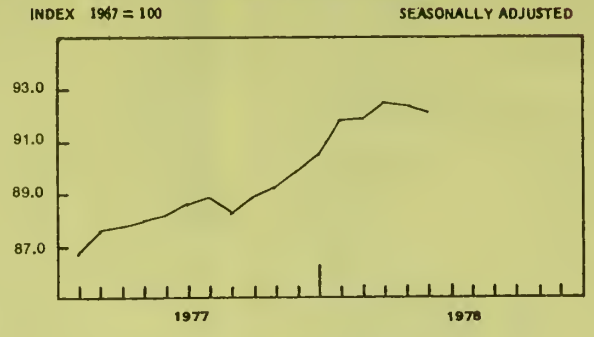
Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

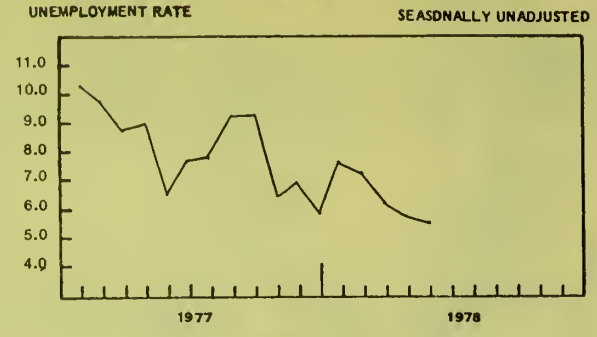
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



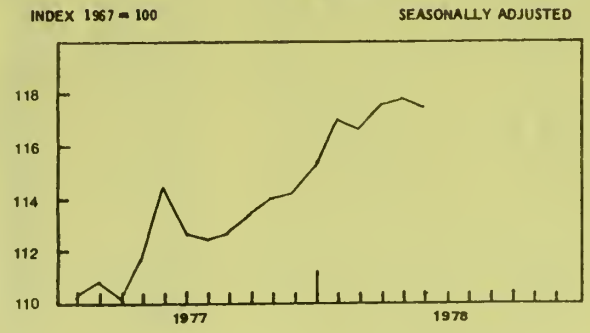
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



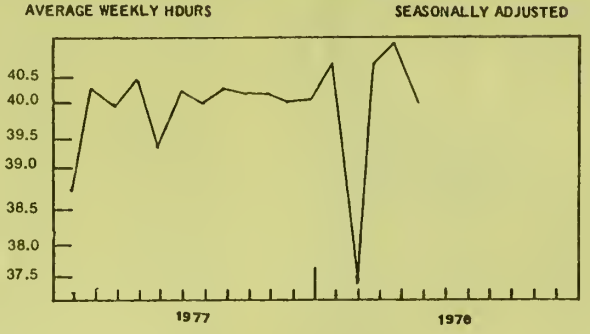
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



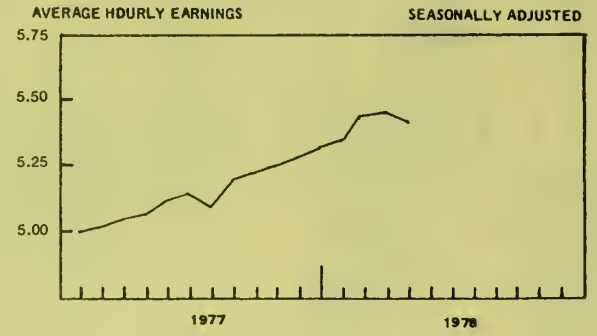
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	MAY 1978		APRIL 1978		MAY 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,662.8	94,112.0	2,675.0	93,801.0	2,594.4	90,267.0
The Unemployment Rate*	5.4	5.5	5.7	5.8	6.6	6.4
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,484.6	85,345.0	2,486.8	85,170.0	2,388.5	81,837.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	643.9	20,235.0	646.8	20,209.0	617.6	19,566.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.9	40.3	41.0	40.7	39.3	40.4
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.40	$6.03	$5.43	$5.99	$5.12	$5.56

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1973	2,561.0	2,390.0	171.0	6.7	4.9
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1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
April	2,746.9	2,499.0	248.0	9.0	6.9
May	2,769.3	2,585.4	184.0	6.6	6.4
June	2,820.7	2,602.5	218.3	7.7	7.5
July	2,822.8	2,603.9	218.3	7.8	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2,605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0
February	2,794.0	2,594.0	200.0	7.1	6.9
March	2,799.0	2,627.0	172.0	6.2	6.6
April	2,794.0	2,635.0	160.0	5.7	6.0
May	2,805.9	2,653.9	152.0	5.4	5.5

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

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Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 5 No.6 Data for JUNE 1978

JUNE HIGHLIGHTS

The June unemployment rate as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor increased by 1.5 percentage points to a seasonally unadjusted 6.9 percent, the first monthly gain this year. June's rate traditionally climbs due to the influx of new workers, students and graduates, into the labor force. Since many do not find immediate employment an inflated unemployment figure results.

This seasonal increase becomes apparent when looking at data derived from the Current Population Survey. During June, 23 percent of all unemployed workers were seeking temporary employment compared to an average of 15 percent in the preceding 5 months, and 19 percent had left school compared to an average of 5 percent in the prior 5 months. Furthermore when looking at the breakdowns of individuals not classified in the labor force, 15 percent on average were in school during the first 5 months while in June this dipped suddenly to only 7.0 percent.

Initial unemployment claims during the June survey weeks climbed by 3.3 percent. This normal seasonal occurrence is caused in part by unemployment resulting from school closings. Initial claims are substantially lower than last year's by 20 percent and continued weeks claimed are 26 percent below last year's levels.

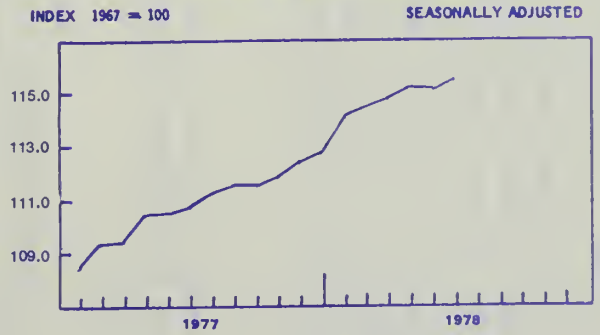
An advance of initial claims usually precedes a rise in the unemployment rate and therefore a slight increase for July is expected. This is partly attributed to school closings plus expected increases of unemployment claims filed by workers ineligible for paid vacation benefits during summer shutdowns.

Total nonagricultural employment increased by 22,100 jobs in June from May and by 98,200 jobs or 4 percent since last year. Manufacturing employment was up 7,500 from May and 25,200 from June of last year with increases in both durable and nondurable goods. Each displayed additions of 17,500 and 7,700 over the year. Manufacturing employment continued to move forward with gains of 14,600 over last month and 13,000 over June 1977. The industries which displayed the largest annual growth were services (+35,800), wholesale and retail trade (+20,200), electric machinery (+7,200), nonelectrical machinery (+3,300) and othere nondurable industries (+3,200). It is important to remember that monthly employment figures are not seasonally adjusted.

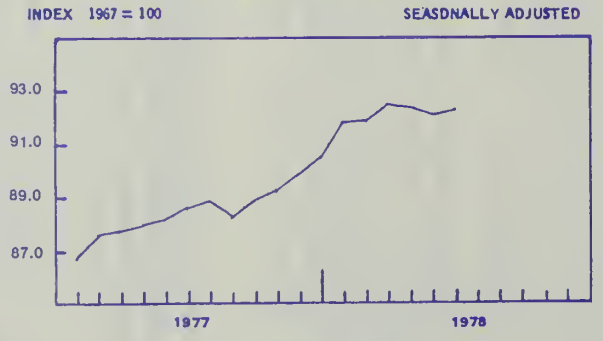
Massachusetts ranked with the third lowest average unemployment rate during the first half of 1978 among the ten major industrial states using the Current Population Survey. Massachusetts posted an average rate of 6.5 percent. Texas was the lowest with 4.8 percent while New York had the highest with 8.1 percent.

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

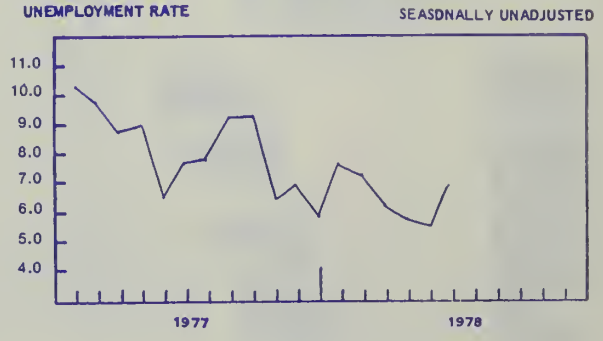
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



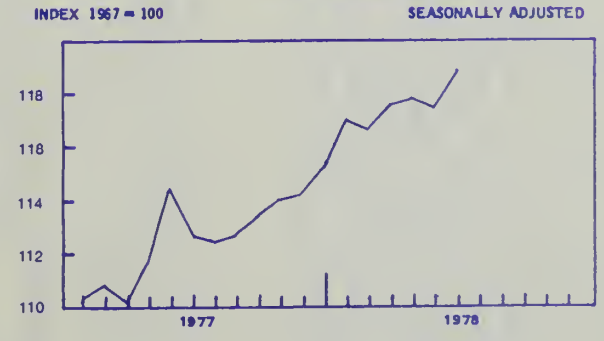
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



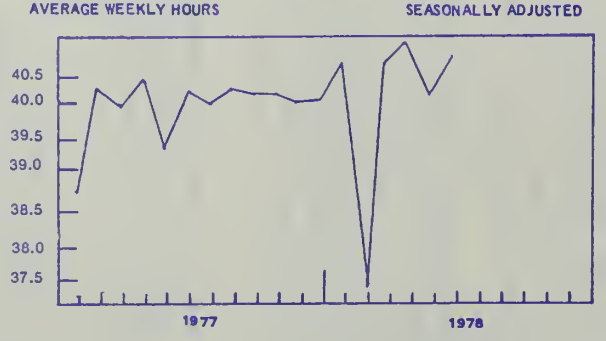
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	JUNE 1978		MAY 1978		JUNE 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,686.0	94,819.0	2,662.8	94,112.0	2,554.5	90,648.0
The Unemployment Rate*	6.9	5.7	5.4	6.1	7.7	7.1
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,492.0	85,729.0	2,486.2	85,454.0	2,394.6	82,157.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	644.5	20,253.0	644.3	20,257.0	619.6	19,611.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.7	40.4	40.2	40.3	40.2	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.54	$6.06	$5.51	$6.02	$5.12	$5.60

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	June 1978	May 1978	June 1977	June 1978	May 1978	June 1977	June 1978	May 1978	June 1977	June 1978	May 1978	June 1977
Massachusetts	2,940,000	2,806,000	2,821,000	2,736,000	2,654,000	2,603,000	203,000	152,000	218,000	6.9	5.4	7.7
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,413,500	1,345,600	1,354,500	1,313,100	1,273,100	1,250,300	100,400	72,500	104,200	7.1	5.4	7.7
Brockton SMSA	81,800	78,700	78,800	76,300	74,500	71,500	5,500	4,200	7,300	6.7	5.4	9.2
Fall River LMA	80,000	77,200	75,900	74,700	73,000	70,000	5,300	4,200	5,900	6.7	5.5	7.8
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	143,600	138,300	132,400	133,600	130,700	120,200	10,000	7,600	12,200	7.0	5.5	9.2
Lowell LMA	116,300	110,400	109,700	107,900	104,500	100,700	8,400	5,900	9,000	7.2	5.4	8.2
New Bedford LMA	85,400	82,000	83,200	79,000	76,600	75,500	6,400	5,400	7,700	7.5	6.6	9.3
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	282,400	276,800	272,100	264,600	262,600	253,600	17,800	14,200	18,500	6.3	5.1	6.8
Worcester LMA	202,900	195,200	195,500	191,000	186,400	182,600	11,900	8,800	12,900	5.9	4.5	6.6
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,380	10,790	11,220	10,680	10,300	10,320	700	490	900	6.2	4.5	8.0
Barnstable County	71,130	62,430	68,060	65,940	57,750	62,560	5,190	4,680	5,500	7.3	7.5	8.1
Clinton	9,370	9,300	9,740	8,560	8,650	8,460	810	650	1,280	8.6	6.9	13.1
Dukes County	6,140	5,040	5,210	5,860	4,790	4,950	280	250	260	4.5	4.9	5.0
Fitchburg-Leominster	49,520	47,420	48,250	46,230	45,050	44,350	3,290	2,370	3,900	6.6	5.0	8.1
Gardner	19,680	18,990	19,560	18,300	17,850	17,910	1,380	1,140	1,650	7.0	6.0	8.4
Gloucester	26,060	24,160	24,760	23,740	22,280	22,480	2,320	1,880	2,280	8.9	7.8	9.2
Great Barrington	9,450	8,870	9,680	8,920	8,460	9,080	530	410	600	5.6	4.6	6.2
Greenfield	29,090	27,880	28,490	27,190	26,400	26,430	1,900	1,480	2,060	6.5	5.3	7.2
Marlboro	54,000	52,050	52,800	51,200	50,050	50,300	2,800	2,000	2,500	5.2	3.9	4.8
Milford	21,050	20,180	18,930	19,740	19,210	17,580	1,310	970	1,350	6.2	4.8	7.2
Nantucket	4,440	3,000	4,330	4,270	2,840	4,160	170	160	170	3.9	5.2	3.8
Newburyport	19,040	18,160	17,460	17,470	17,060	15,810	1,570	1,100	1,650	8.3	6.1	9.5
Pittsfield	70,900	67,770	70,300	65,570	63,720	64,180	5,330	4,050	6,120	7.5	6.0	8.7
Plymouth	35,050	33,010	33,810	31,720	30,440	30,530	3,330	2,570	3,280	9.5	7.8	9.7
Southbridge	16,630	16,140	15,800	15,850	15,520	14,870	780	620	930	4.7	3.8	5.9
Taunton	27,560	26,220	26,830	25,530	24,640	24,940	2,030	1,580	1,890	7.4	6.0	7.0
Ware	7,010	6,720	7,455	6,540	6,340	6,820	470	380	635	6.7	5.7	8.5

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1973	2,561.0	2,390.0	171.0	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
May	2,769.3	2,585.4	184.0	6.6	6.4
June	2,820.7	2,602.5	218.3	7.7	7.5
July	2,822.8	2,603.9	218.3	7.8	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2,605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0
February	2,794.0	2,594.0	200.0	7.1	6.9
March	2,799.0	2,627.0	172.0	6.2	6.6
April	2,794.0	2,635.0	160.0	5.7	6.0
May	2,805.9	2,653.9	152.0	5.4	5.5
June	2,940.0	2,736.0	203.0	6.9	6.2

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY EMPLOYMENT SECURITY BUILDING
GOVERNMENT CENTER, BOSTON, MASS. 02114
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AES MA 30.4: Vol. 5/No. 7

MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION
SEP 1 1978
University of Massachusetts

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 5 No. 7 Data for JULY 1978

JULY HIGHLIGHTS

The July seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor declined to 6.3 percent from 6.9 percent in June, the sixth monthly decline of the year. The national unadjusted rate also stood at 6.3 percent, an increase of 0.1 percent from the previous month. July's unemployment rate compares favorably to January's 7.5 percent and last year's 7.8 percent, indicating a strong trend in the state's economic improvement. However since labor force figures in Massachusetts are based upon a statistical sample, caution should be used in comparing monthly data.

Total nonagricultural employment experienced the traditional seasonal decline during July, the first decline this year. Nonagricultural employment stood at 2,508,400, a decline of 9,100 or 0.4 percent from the previous month. Employment usually dips as a result of vacation shutdowns which occur primarily in manufacturing firms. This is an artificial drop since those workers who are ineligible for paid vacation benefits temporarily are not considered employed resulting in lower employment levels. Both durable and nondurable goods registered decreases of 4,000 and 11,100 respectively, while nonmanufacturing employment rose by 6,000 jobs.

Over the year nonagricultural employment has displayed definite improvement with an additional 95,000 jobs, an increase of 3.9 percent. Nonmanufacturing accounted for a gain of 71,500 jobs or 75 percent of the overall increase while manufacturing was responsible for the remaining 23,5000 jobs, or 25 percent. In the manufacturing sector the largest expansion took place in electrical machinery (+7,900), particularly in communication equipment, transportation (+3,000), and apparel (+2,300). The most substantial employment gains occurring in nonmanufacturing industries were services (+34,400), particularly business services, and wholesale and retail trade (+20,600) with notable additions in the eating and drinking, durable wholesale goods, and apparel establishments.

Continued and initial claims both took expected seasonal upturns during July primarily as a result of vacation shutdowns when workers ineligible for paid vacation benefits applied for unemployment insurance benefits. Continued and initial claims are below last year's levels by 8.6 percent and 9.8 percent and continued claims are at the lowest July level of the decade.

Among the ten major industrial states using the Current Population Survey only two states experienced declines in their unemployment rates, Massachusetts and Ohio. This state still ranked with the third lowest unemployment rate during July.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	July 1978	June 1978	July 1977	July 1978	June 1978	July 1977	July 1978	June 1978	July 1977	July 1978	June 1978	July 1977
Massachusetts	2,934,000	2,940,000	2,823,000	2,748,000	2,736,000	2,604,000	186,000	203,000	219,000	6.3	6.9	7.8
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,422,500	1,408,700	1,348,900	1,336,600	1,313,100	1,247,900	85,900	95,600	101,000	6.0	6.8	7.5
Brockton SMSA	82,600	82,100	78,600	77,400	76,300	71,600	5,200	5,800	7,000	6.4	7.0	8.9
Fall River LMA	83,000	80,300	76,400	77,400	74,700	69,800	5,600	5,600	6,600	6.8	6.9	8.7
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	145,400	144,100	131,900	135,100	133,600	119,200	10,300	10,500	12,700	7.1	7.3	9.6
Lowell LMA	116,200	116,700	109,300	108,100	107,900	100,500	8,100	8,800	8,800	7.0	7.5	8.1
New Bedford LMA	83,100	85,700	84,400	76,000	79,000	74,800	7,100	6,700	9,600	8.5	7.8	11.4
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	281,400	283,200	274,800	264,300	264,600	255,800	17,100	18,600	19,000	6.1	6.6	6.9
Worcester LMA	200,600	203,500	193,200	189,000	191,000	180,500	11,600	12,500	12,700	5.8	6.1	6.6
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,160	11,420	11,400	10,470	10,680	10,390	690	740	1,010	6.2	6.5	8.9
Barnstable County	71,650	71,370	69,510	67,190	65,940	64,520	4,460	5,430	4,990	6.2	7.6	7.2
Clinton	9,630	9,410	9,640	8,720	8,560	8,410	910	850	1,230	9.5	9.0	12.8
Dukes County	6,820	6,150	5,890	6,570	5,860	5,660	250	290	230	3.6	4.7	3.8
Fitchburg-Leominster	48,170	49,670	47,730	45,120	46,230	43,850	3,050	3,440	3,880	6.3	6.9	8.1
Gardner	19,270	19,750	20,070	17,810	18,300	18,200	1,460	1,450	1,870	7.6	7.3	9.3
Gloucester	25,530	26,170	25,770	23,230	23,740	23,540	2,300	2,430	2,230	9.0	9.3	8.7
Great Barrington	9,040	9,470	9,900	8,570	8,920	9,370	470	550	530	5.2	5.8	5.3
Greenfield	28,020	29,180	28,690	26,400	27,190	26,750	1,620	1,990	1,940	5.8	6.8	6.8
Mariboro	52,090	54,110	53,250	49,580	51,190	50,590	2,510	2,920	2,660	4.8	5.4	5.0
Milford	20,550	21,110	19,160	19,280	19,740	17,410	1,270	1,370	1,750	6.2	6.5	9.1
Nantucket	4,860	4,450	4,930	4,730	4,270	4,780	130	180	150	2.8	4.0	3.0
Newburyport	18,680	19,110	17,550	17,070	17,460	15,870	1,610	1,650	1,680	8.6	8.6	9.6
Pittsfield	68,930	71,150	71,430	64,130	65,570	65,510	4,800	5,580	5,920	7.0	7.8	8.3
Plymouth	34,740	35,200	34,040	31,570	31,720	30,800	3,170	3,480	3,240	9.1	9.9	9.5
Southbridge	16,320	16,670	16,480	15,490	15,850	15,520	830	820	960	5.1	4.9	5.8
Taunton	26,270	27,650	26,470	24,210	25,530	24,170	2,060	2,120	2,300	7.8	7.7	8.7
Ware	6,890	7,035	7,120	6,440	6,540	6,450	450	495	670	6.6	7.0	9.4

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

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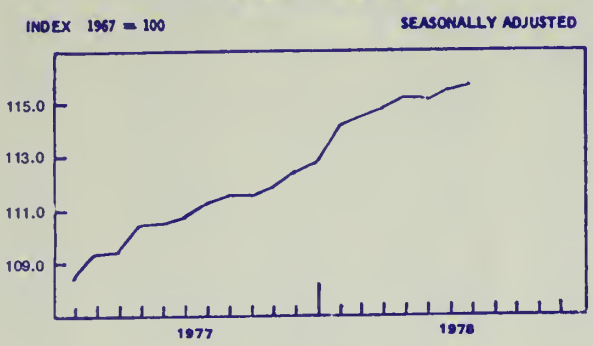
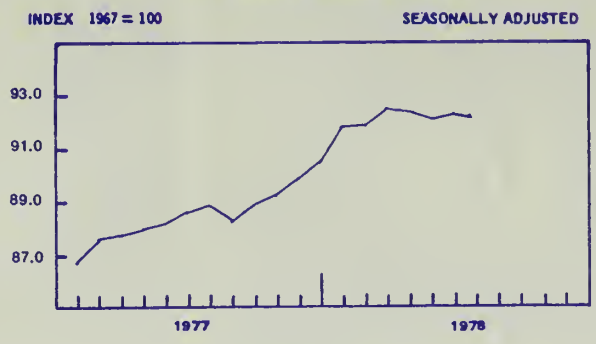
Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

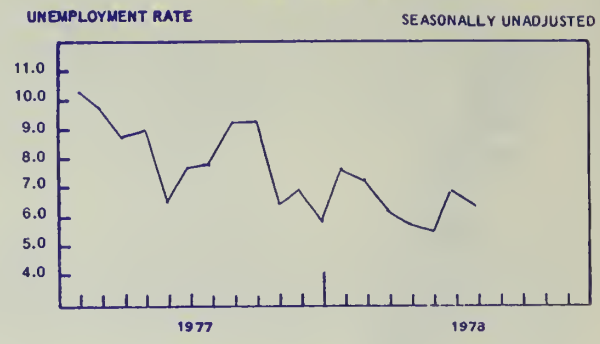
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



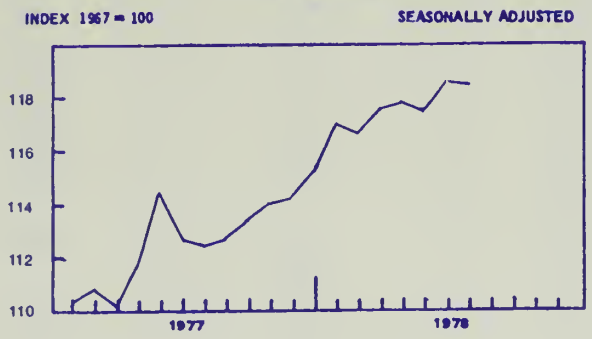
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



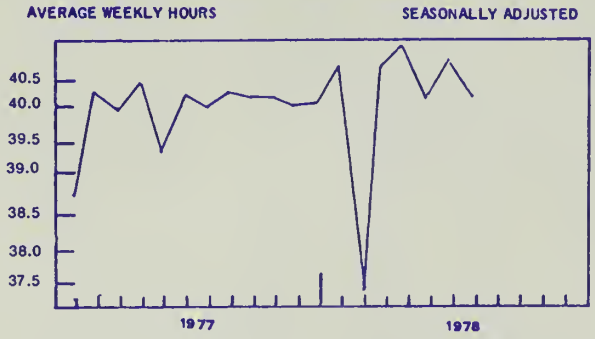
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



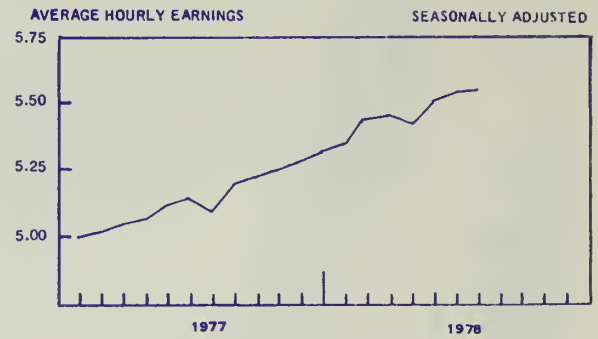
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	July 1978		June 1978		July 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,685.5	94,425.0	2,686.0	94,819.0	2,544.9	90,588.0
The Unemployment Rate*	6.3	6.3	6.9	6.2	7.8	7.0
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,499.5	86,031.0	2,493.0	85,767.0	2,405.0	82,407.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	644.4	20,308.0	644.6	20,283.0	620.6	19,666.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.2	40.4	40.7	40.4	40.0	40.2
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.54	$6.12	$5.54	$6.07	$5.07	$5.65

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
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1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
May	2,769.3	2,585.4	184.0	6.6	6.4
June	2,820.7	2,602.5	218.3	7.7	7.5
July	2,822.8	2,603.9	218.3	7.8	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2,605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0
February	2,794.0	2,594.0	200.0	7.1	6.9
March	2,799.0	2,627.0	172.0	6.2	6.6
April	2,794.0	2,635.0	160.0	5.7	6.0
May	2,805.9	2,653.9	152.0	5.4	5.5
June	2,940.0	2,736.0	203.0	6.9	6.2
July	2,934.0	2,748.0	186.0	6.3	6.3

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

RETURN IN FIVE DAYS TO
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY
CHARLES F. HURLEY EMPLOYMENT SECURITY BUILDING
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55 MA 20.4: Vol.5, No.8

MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS COLLECTION 1978

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 5 No. 8 Data for AUGUST 1978

AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

Resident employment in Massachusetts in August 1978 was 2,710,000 down 38,000 from July's total, but 117,300 higher than the total recorded a year ago.

Total unemployment in the state in August was 195,000, up 9,000 from July. On a year-to- year basis, the number of persons without jobs declined by 63,800 (25%).

The employment decrease and the unemployment increase resulted in a seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate of 6.7 percent in August. The month earlier rate was 6.3 percent, and in August of one year ago it was 7.8 percent. The August rate has risen in each of the past three years.

The national unemployment rates were each down during August. The seasonally unadjusted rate was 5.8 percent and the seasonally adjusted rate was 5.9 percent.

The number of nonagricultural wage and salary jobs (which excludes agricultural workers, the self employed, unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households) increased by 20,000 since July, and 99,600 since August of last year. Approximately 67 percent of the yearly nonfarm expansion occurred in the nonmanufacturing sector.

Employment in the nonmanufacturing sector was up 5,600 between July and August, and 66,500 higher than August of last year, a rise of 3.7 percent. Over eighty percent of the yearly nonmanufacturing gain was accounted for by job additions in services (+35,100), and wholesale and retail trade (+20,500).

The job count in the manufacturing sector reattained previous levels after a seasonal decline during July. Manufacturing employment stood at 652,500 in August, a 5.3 percent rise since August 1977. Two thirds of this increase was registered by durable goods manufacturing firms.

An indicator, new incorporations recently became available to this agency and will be published in upcoming newsletters. New incorporations stood at 799 in August, a slight decline from July's 805 and last August's 814.

At least $148,826,000 new contracts for Massachusetts firms were announced in August. The Electronics Systems Division, United States Air Force awarded $3,760,745 to sixteen Massachusetts firms. The government of Sweden, Republic of China, and the Republic of Algeria let contracts to Massachusetts firms.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	August 1978	July 1978	August 1977	August 1978	July 1978	August 1977	August 1978	July 1978	August 1977	August 1978	July 1978	August 1977
Massachusetts	2,905,000	2,934,000	2,851,400	2,710,000	2,748,000	2,592,700	195,000	186,000	258,800	6.7	6.3	9.1
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,403,900	1,422,500	1,361,700	1,313,400	1,336,600	1,238,100	90,500	85,900	123,600	6.4	6.0	9.1
Brockton SMSA	82,500	82,600	80,200	77,100	77,400	71,600	5,400	5,200	8,600	6.6	6.4	10.8
Fall River LMA	82,700	82,900	77,400	77,700	77,300	70,500	5,000	5,600	6,900	6.1	6.8	8.9
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	143,400	145,400	134,800	132,200	135,100	120,600	11,200	10,300	14,200	7.8	7.1	10.6
Lowell LMA	115,400	116,200	110,800	106,900	108,100	100,100	8,500	8,100	10,700	7.4	7.0	9.7
New Bedford LMA	82,100	83,100	84,200	75,300	76,000	74,800	6,800	7,100	9,400	8.2	8.5	11.1
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	280,800	281,400	274,500	261,500	264,300	252,800	19,300	17,100	21,700	6.9	6.1	7.9
Worcester LMA	197,200	200,600	195,800	186,000	189,000	180,700	11,200	11,600	15,100	5.7	5.8	7.7
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,050	11,160	11,310	10,370	10,470	10,220	680	690	1,090	6.2	6.2	9.6
Barnstable County	71,530	71,650	69,870	66,360	67,190	63,900	5,170	4,460	5,970	7.2	6.2	8.5
Clinton	9,070	9,630	9,910	8,330	8,720	8,300	740	910	1,610	8.2	9.5	16.3
Dukes County	7,060	6,820	6,090	6,830	6,570	5,760	230	250	330	3.3	3.6	5.4
Fitchburg-Leominster	47,370	48,170	48,090	44,160	45,120	43,710	3,210	3,050	4,380	6.8	6.3	9.1
Gardner	18,970	19,270	20,080	17,610	17,810	18,140	1,360	1,460	1,940	7.2	7.6	9.7
Gloucester	25,090	25,530	25,740	23,400	23,230	23,390	1,690	2,300	2,350	6.7	9.0	9.1
Great Barrington	9,070	9,040	10,290	8,550	8,570	9,660	520	470	630	5.8	5.2	6.1
Greenfield	27,850	28,020	28,760	25,930	26,400	26,580	1,920	1,620	2,180	6.9	5.8	7.6
Marlboro	50,490	52,090	53,880	48,170	49,580	50,720	2,320	2,510	3,160	4.6	4.8	5.9
Milford	20,290	20,550	19,440	18,970	19,280	17,540	1,320	1,270	1,900	6.5	6.2	9.8
Nantucket	4,750	4,860	4,910	4,640	4,730	4,740	110	130	170	2.3	2.8	3.4
Newburyport	18,390	18,680	17,990	16,860	17,070	16,100	1,530	1,610	1,890	8.3	8.6	10.5
Pittsfield	68,640	68,930	72,330	63,150	64,130	65,000	5,490	4,800	7,330	8.0	7.0	10.1
Plymouth	35,230	34,740	34,660	31,520	31,570	30,820	3,710	3,170	3,840	10.5	9.1	11.1
Southbridge	16,100	16,320	16,620	15,290	15,490	15,430	810	830	1,190	5.0	5.1	7.2
Taunton	26,440	26,270	27,250	24,390	24,210	24,610	2,050	2,060	2,640	7.7	7.8	9.7
Ware	6,960	6,890	7,320	6,450	6,440	6,520	510	450	800	7.3	6.6	10.9

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

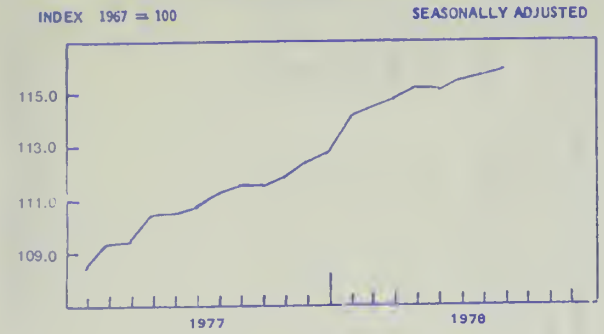
4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

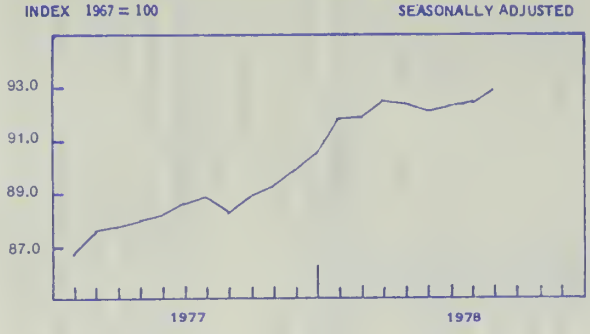
Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

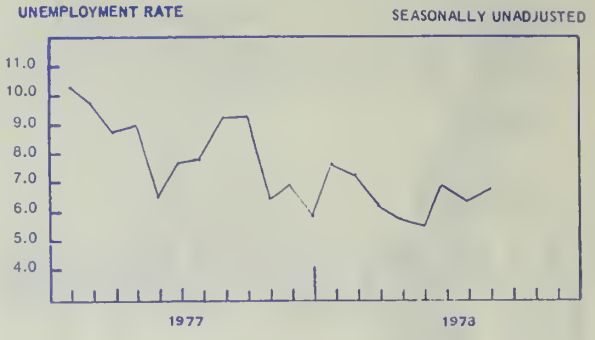
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



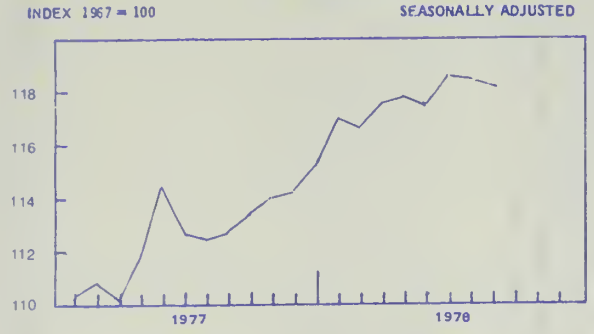
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



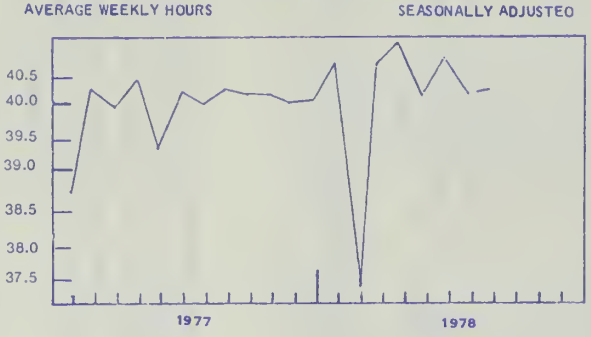
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	August 1978		July 1978		August 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,667.3	94,581.0	2,685.5	94,425.0	2,551.5	90,793.0
The Unemployment Rate*	6.7	5.8	6.3	6.3	9.1	6.8
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,509.5	86,116.0	2,496.1	86,003.0	2,410.4	82,474.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	649.5	20,270.0	645.8	20,316.0	616.5	19,594.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.3	40.3	40.2	40.4	40.2	40.3
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.57	$6.13	$5.54	$6.13	$5.16	$5.65

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1973	2,561.0	2,390.0	171.0	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
May	2,769.3	2,585.4	184.0	6.6	6.4
June	2,820.7	2,602.5	218.3	7.7	7.5
July	2,822.8	2,603.9	218.3	7.8	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2,605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0
February	2,794.0	2,594.0	200.0	7.1	6.9
March	2,799.0	2,627.0	172.0	6.2	6.6
April	2,794.0	2,635.0	160.0	5.7	6.0
May	2,805.9	2,653.9	152.0	5.4	5.5
June	2,940.0	2,736.0	203.0	6.9	6.2
July	2,934.0	2,748.0	186.0	6.3	6.3
August	2,905.0	2,710.0	195.0	6.7	5.8

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 5 No. 9 **Data for** SEPTEMBER 1978

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

September's seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate came down nearly a full percentage point to 5.8 percent, a decline of 0.9 percentage points from August's rate. This represents a significant improvement over last September's rate of 9.1 percent. Quarterly averages which represent less sample fluctuation, indicates the economic improvement within the state since the beginning of the year. The unemployment rates for the first three quarters of 1978 were 6.9, 6.0, and 6.3 percent respectively. This dramatic improvement is evident when comparing the unemployment rate for the third quarter of 1977 (8.6 percent) with that of 1978 (6.3 percent).

Employment dipped by 58,000 workers in September to 2,651,000, a moderate decline from August's 2,522,100. This is attributable to students leaving the labor force and reentering school. However, employment has advanced over the year by 105,000 (or 4.1 percent).

Similarly,unemployment moved downward in September to 162,000, a decline of 33,000 from August and a decline of 92,900 since last year. This substantial decrease in unemployment is further reflected in other data as well. The Division's records show that in the twelve month period ending September 30,that there has been a reduction of 36 percent in the number of unemployment checks paid and a 33 percent reduction in total unemployment dollars paid.

Total nonagricultural employment was up 6,000 from August and stood at 2,581,000, a 3.8 percent increase over September 1977. Nonmanufacturing accounted for 72 percent of this gain while manufacturing accounted for the remaining 28 percent. Nearly three-quarters of manufacturings' increase took place in durable goods industries. Wholesale and retail trade along with services were responsible for the advances in nonmanufacturing.

Other economic indicators: There were 802 new incorporations during September, an 11.7 percent rise from last year's 718; but a modest increase from August's 799. The Consumer Price Index rose 1.4 percent between July and September. Higher prices for clothing, homeownership, and personal and educational expenses contributed primarily to this rise. This brought the Boston Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers to 195.8 (1967=100).

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	September 1978	August 1978	September 1977	September 1978	August 1978	September 1977	September 1978	August 1978	September 1977	September 1978	August 1978	September 1977
Massachusetts	2,814,000	2,905,000	2,801,000	2,652,000	2,710,000	2,546,000	162,000	195,000	255,000	5.8	6.7	9.1
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,359,700	1,403,900	1,341,200	1,284,300	1,313,400	1,217,100	75,400	90,500	124,100	5.5	6.4	9.3
Brockton SMSA	80,800	82,500	78,600	76,000	77,100	70,400	4,800	5,400	8,200	6.0	6.6	10.4
Fall River LMA	81,600	82,700	77,600	76,800	77,700	70,700	4,800	5,000	6,900	5.9	6.1	8.9
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	139,100	143,400	131,500	130,000	132,200	117,500	9,100	11,200	14,000	6.6	7.8	10.7
Lowell LMA	112,100	115,400	107,900	105,200	106,900	97,700	6,900	8,500	10,200	6.2	7.4	9.5
New Bedford LMA	79,100	82,100	82,700	73,300	75,300	73,200	5,800	6,800	9,500	7.3	8.2	11.5
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	274,100	280,800	273,200	259,000	261,500	252,200	15,100	19,300	21,000	5.5	6.9	7.7
Worcester LMA	193,600	197,200	194,000	184,500	186,000	180,000	9,100	11,200	14,000	4.7	5.7	7.2
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	10,550	11,050	10,910	10,040	10,370	9,940	510	680	970	4.9	6.2	8.9
Barnstable County	65,390	71,530	66,620	61,370	66,360	60,360	4,020	5,170	6,260	6.1	7.2	9.4
Clinton	8,800	9,070	9,820	8,150	8,330	8,280	650	740	1,540	7.4	8.2	15.6
Dukes County	5,940	7,060	5,260	5,710	6,830	4,900	230	230	360	3.8	3.3	6.8
Fitchburg-Leominster	45,710	47,370	47,320	43,080	44,160	43,350	2,630	3,210	3,970	5.7	6.8	8.4
Gardner	18,220	18,970	19,480	17,190	17,610	17,640	1,030	1,360	1,840	5.7	7.2	9.5
Gloucester	24,470	25,090	25,000	22,540	23,400	22,390	1,930	1,690	2,610	7.9	6.7	10.4
Great Barrington	9,970	9,070	10,320	9,510	8550	9,700	460	520	620	4.6	5.8	6.0
Greenfield	26,840	27,850	28,080	25,300	25,930	25,970	1,540	1,920	2,110	5.7	6.9	7.5
Marlboro	49,580	50,490	52,230	47,280	48,170	49,430	2,300	2,320	2,800	4.6	4.6	5.4
Milford	19,560	20,290	18,670	18,500	18,970	17,070	1,060	1,320	1,600	5.4	6.5	8.6
Nantucket	4,110	4,750	4,210	3,960	4,640	4,040	150	110	170	3.6	2.3	4.0
Newburyport	17,630	18,390	17,780	16,410	16,860	15,800	1,220	1,530	1,980	6.9	8.3	11.1
Pittsfield	65,340	68,640	69,270	61,040	63,150	62,430	4,300	5,490	6,840	6.6	8.0	9.9
Plymouth	34,080	35,230	33,970	30,750	31,520	30,260	3,330	3,710	3,710	9.8	10.5	10.9
Southbridge	15,620	16,100	16,390	14,940	15,290	15,270	680	810	1,120	4.3	5.0	6.8
Taunton	24,010	26,440	25,800	22,250	24,390	23,240	1,760	2,050	2,560	7.3	7.7	9.9
Ware	6,710	6,960	7,060	6,360	6,450	6,360	350	510	700	5.2	7.3	9.9

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

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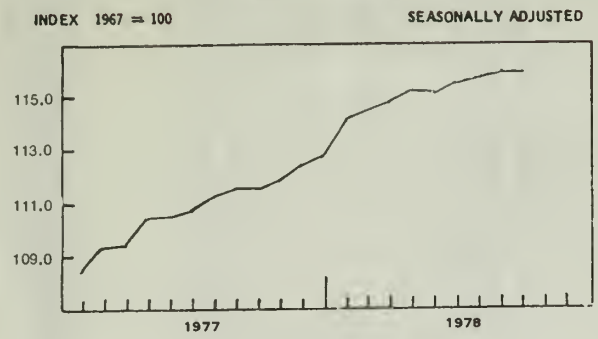
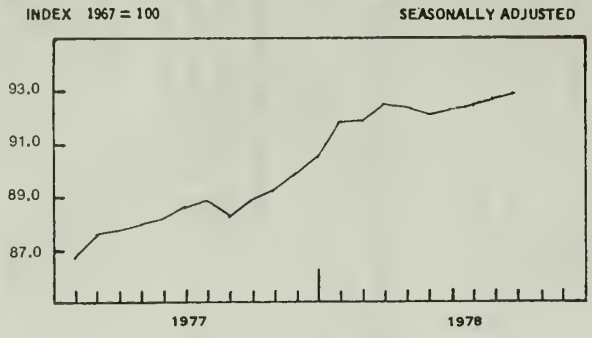
Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

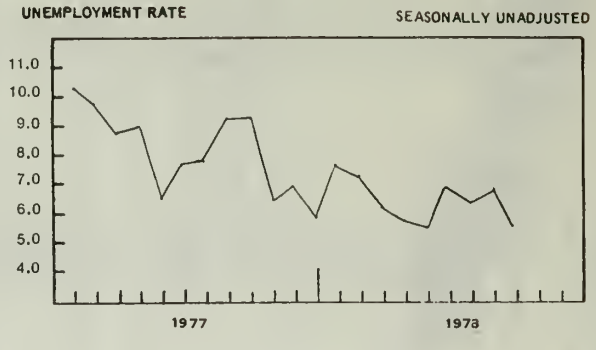
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



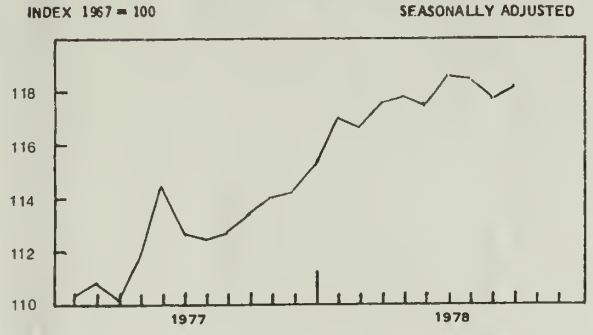
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



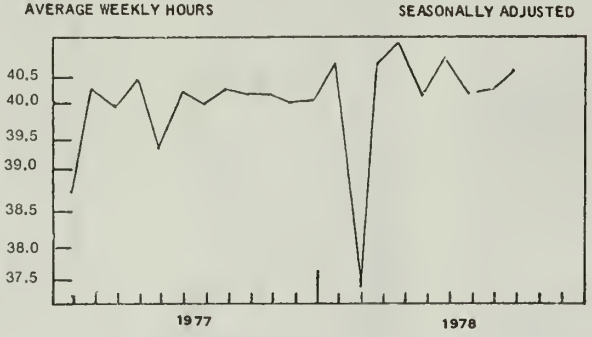
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



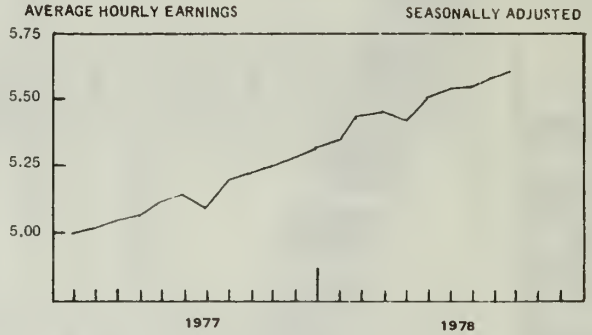
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	September 1978		August 1978		September 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,680.6	94,868.0	2,667.3	94,581.0	2,575.0	91,088.0
The Unemployment Rate*	5.8	5.7	6.7	5.8	9.1	6.6
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,503.3	86,106.0	2,506.6	86,164.0	2,410.7	82,973.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	647.9	20,282.0	647.0	20,272.0	621.9	19,715.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.5	40.4	40.3	40.4	40.2	40.3
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.61	$6.28	$5.57	$6.16	$5.20	$5.79

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1973	2,561.0	2,390.0	171.0	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2,605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0
February	2,794.0	2,594.0	200.0	7.1	6.9
March	2,799.0	2,627.0	172.0	6.2	6.6
April	2,794.0	2,635.0	160.0	5.7	6.0
May	2,805.9	2,653.9	152.0	5.4	5.5
June	2,940.0	2,736.0	203.0	6.9	6.2
July	2,934.0	2,748.0	186.0	6.3	6.3
August	2,905.0	2,710.0	195.0	6.7	5.8
September	2,814.0	2,651.0	162.0	5.8	5.7

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

COLLECTION
DEC 22 1978

Vol. 6 No. 10 **Data for** OCTOBER 1978

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

The unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) dropped sharply by 2.3 percentage points from the October 1977 unemployment estimate of 6.6 percent to the October 1978 unemployment estimate of 4.3 percent. The monthly change in unemployment also dropped considerably by 1.5 percentage points from the September 1978 unemployment estimate of 5.8 percent. The Nation's unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) for October was 5.4 percent compared with 5.7 percent in September and 6.3 percent in October 1977.

Total employment which is measured by a monthly survey of households rose by 33,100 to 2,684,500. Over the year, the total employment estimate has grown by 74,300. The number of people unemployed in October registered at 120,600 a drop of 41,500 people since September. Again, these high monthly fluctuations should be reviewed with caution because of the criterion set by the Bureau of Labor Statistics' new methodology which began in January 1978. However, the changes do indicate that the employment situation of Massachusetts has improved since the implementation of the new methodology.

Nonagricultural employment which is measured by the monthly survey of establishments, rose by 17,500 jobs from September and was estimated at 2,549,000. This is also a 4.4 percent increase from a year ago. The increase was mostly due to the addition of 14,300 new jobs in nonmanufacturing and the remaining 3,200 jobs being added in manufacturing. The substantial nonmanufacturing increase was concentrated in the service producing sector (+9,600) and the total government sector (+6,800).

According to the October U.I. administrative records, there was a decrease of 15,118 benefit payment checks issued from September and a monthly decrease of $450,286 paid in total unemployment insurance benefits. The average weekly benefit amount rose slightly in October to $83.50 from $80.28.

According to the records of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, in October 850 new corporative titles were filed, an increase from the 802 incorporations in September.

At least $86,924,597 in new contracts for Massachusetts' firms were announced in October. The Electronics Systems Division, United States Air Force awarded $23,972,079 to Massachusetts firms. The governments of Thailand, Australia, and Iran let contracts to Massachusetts.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	October 1978	September 1978	October 1977	October 1978	September 1978	October 1977	October 1978	September 1978	October 1977	Oct. 1978	Sept. 1978	Oct. 1977
Massachusetts	2,805,100	2,613,500	2,795,100	2,684,500	2,651,400	2,610,200	120,600	162,100	184,900	4.3	5.8	6.6
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,364,600	1,359,700	1,345,800	1,308,900	1,284,300	1,255,600	55,700	75,400	90,200	4.1	5.5	6.7
Brockton SMSA	82,600	80,800	79,500	79,000	76,000	73,500	3,600	4,800	6,000	4.4	6.0	7.6
Fall River LMA	78,200	81,600	75,600	74,400	76,800	70,500	3,800	4,800	5,100	4.9	5.9	6.8
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	138,000	139,100	131,500	130,700	130,000	121,500	7,300	9,100	10,000	5.3	6.6	7.6
Lowell LMA	111,800	112,100	109,000	106,600	105,200	101,800	5,200	6,900	7,200	4.6	6.2	6.6
New Bedford LMA	80,000	79,100	82,100	75,600	73,300	75,200	4,400	5,800	6,900	5.5	7.3	8.4
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	272,700	274,100	273,200	261,600	259,000	258,400	11,100	15,100	14,800	4.1	5.5	5.4
Worcester LMA	196,000	193,600	196,000	189,300	184,500	185,700	6,700	9,100	10,300	3.4	4.7	5.3
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	10,700	10,550	10,940	10,280	10,040	10,230	420	510	710	3.9	4.9	6.5
Barnstable County	58,300	65,390	60,850	54,750	61,370	55,100	3,550	4,020	5,750	6.1	6.1	9.4
Clinton	8,700	8,800	9,690	8,260	8,150	8,640	440	650	1,050	5.1	7.4	10.8
Dukes County	4,650	5,940	5,100	4,410	5,710	4,760	240	230	340	5.1	3.8	6.6
Fitchburg-Leominster	45,670	45,710	47,430	43,760	43,080	44,510	1,910	2,630	2,920	4.2	5.7	6.2
Gardner	18,330	18,220	19,160	17,540	17,190	17,830	790	1,030	1,330	4.3	5.7	7.0
Gloucester	23,240	24,470	24,140	21,730	22,540	21,970	1,510	1,930	2,170	6.5	7.9	9.0
Great Barrington	8,660	9,970	9,700	8,310	9,510	9,240	350	460	460	4.0	4.6	4.7
Greenfield	26,760	26,840	27,430	25,640	25,300	25,920	1,120	1,540	1,510	4.2	5.7	5.5
Marlboro	49,660	49,580	51,960	48,160	47,280	49,980	1,500	2,300	1,980	3.0	4.6	3.8
Milford	19,520	19,560	18,410	18,760	18,500	17,320	760	1,060	1,090	3.9	5.4	5.9
Nantucket	3,060	4,110	3,150	2,950	3,960	2,980	110	150	170	3.6	3.6	5.4
Newburyport	17,610	17,630	17,610	16,630	16,410	16,120	980	1,220	1,490	5.6	6.9	8.4
Pittsfield	64,840	65,340	68,790	61,570	61,040	64,150	3,270	4,300	4,640	5.0	6.6	6.7
Plymouth	33,860	34,080	33,310	31,700	30,750	30,600	2,160	3,330	2,710	6.4	9.8	8.1
Southbridge	15,800	15,620	16,400	15,210	14,940	15,590	590	680	810	3.7	4.3	4.9
Taunton	23,320	24,010	25,720	22,210	22,250	23,920	1,110	1,760	1,800	4.8	7.3	7.0
Ware	6,700	6,710	6,900	6,440	6,360	6,410	260	350	490	3.9	5.2	7.1

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

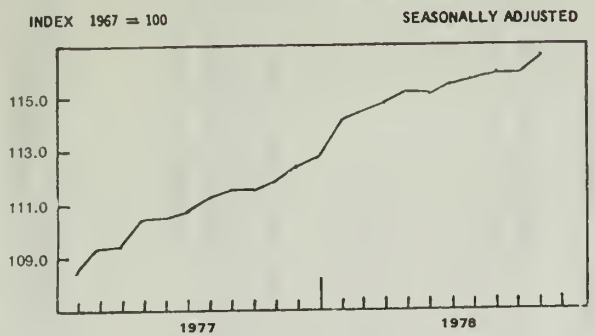
4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

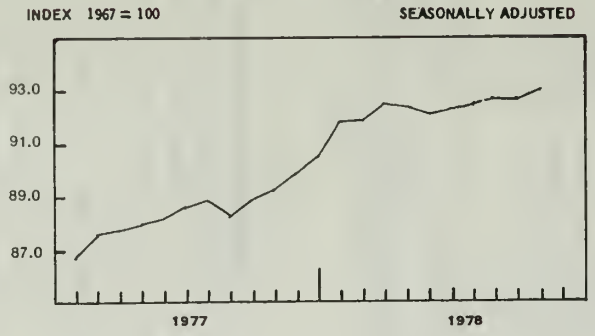
Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

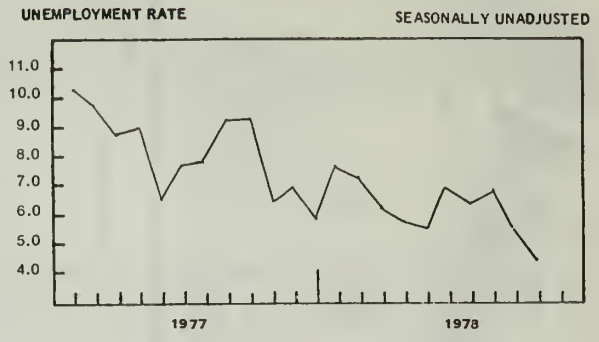
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



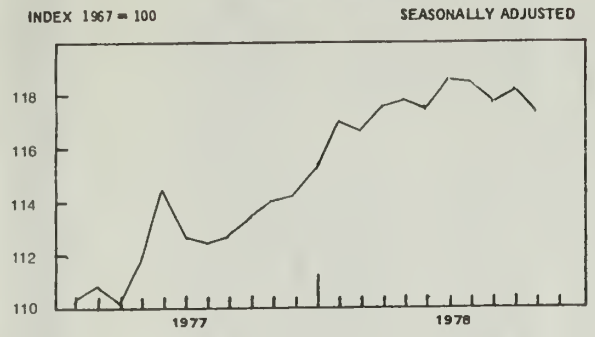
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



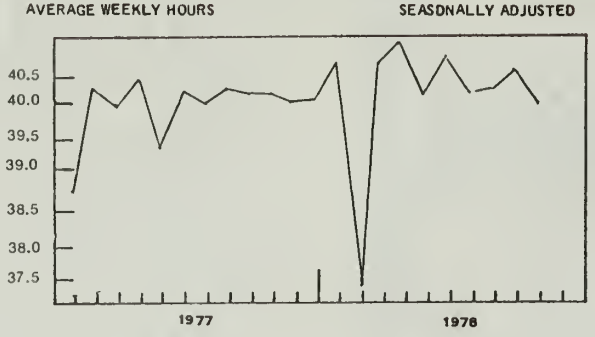
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



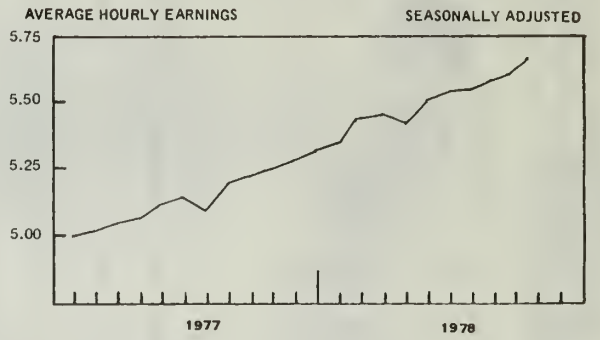
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	October 1978		September 1978		October 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,657.8	95,192.0	2,680.6	94,868.0	2,585.5	91,383.0
The Unemployment Rate*	4.3	5.4	5.8	5.7	6.6	6.3
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,524.2	86,597.0	2,506.7	86,167.0	2,417.8	83,199.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	650.1	20,419.0	648.1	20,279.0	623.3	19,769.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.9	40.5	40.5	40.4	40.2	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.65	$6.33	$5.61	$6.28	$5.24	$5.82

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1973	2,561.0	2,390.0	171.0	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
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1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2,605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0
February	2,793.7	2,594.2	199.5	7.1	6.9
March	2,799.0	2,626.6	172.4	6.2	6.6
April	2,793.2	2,633.5	159.7	5.7	6.0
May	2,805.9	2,653.9	152.0	5.4	5.5
June	2,939.6	2,736.2	203.4	6.9	6.2
July	2,934.1	2,747.8	186.3	6.3	6.3
August	2,905.2	2,710.0	195.2	6.7	5.8
September	2,813.5	2,651.4	162.1	5.8	5.7
October	2,805.1	2,684.5	120.6	4.3	5.4

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

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Employment
Unemployment

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Vol. 5 No. 11 **Data for** NOVEMBER 1978

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Employment continued to rise in November and unemployment edged upward, as the Commonwealth's labor force rose sharply. The Massachusetts' unemployment rate seasonally unadjusted was 5.2 percent for the month compared to 4.3 percent in October and 6.9 percent in November of 1977. The National seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate was 5.5 percent this month and 5.4 percent for October.

Total employment which is measured by a monthly survey of households rose slightly by 9,900 persons to 2,694,400 persons for November. Over the past year, total employment has grown by 88,600. In contrast to the over-the-year growth in total employment, total unemployment declined by 45,300 people, allowing the total civilian labor force to grow by 43,300.

Nonagricultural employment, as measured by a monthly survey of establishments advanced by 3,200 jobs to a 2,553,200 total. Payroll jobs have grown by 99,300 from the year ago level of 2,453,900. Most of the major industry divisions remained unchanged or received slight gains. In the goods producing sector, manufacturing employment posted 2,400 more jobs than the previous month. Fabricated metals was the largest gainer among the manufacturing industries while no substantial losses were evident in this sector. Over the year manufacturing jobs have grown by 25,000 jobs. Nonmanufacturing received only 800 new jobs in the month. The largest nonmanufacturing gain was in wholesale and retail trade. The overall levels of nonagricultural employment this month, stayed constant with the levels from the previous month. Further detail of monthly nonagricultural employment appears in "Employment Review" published by the Division of Employment Security, Occupation/Industry Research Department.

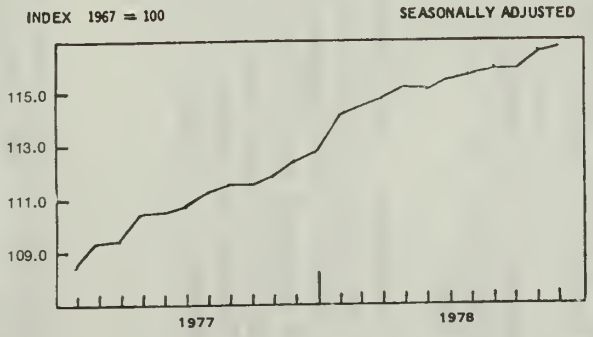
According to the records of the Secretary of the Commonwealth in November, 745 new corporations were filed, a decrease from the 850 incorporations in October. This decrease in November has been a consistent trend since 1972.

At least $177,449,923 new contracts were announced in November. The Electronic Systems Division, United States Air Force awarded $83,339,488 to Massachusetts firms. The governments of the Peoples' Republic of China and the Republic of Cameroon let contracts to Massachusetts firms. A review of contracts awarded year-to-date indicates Massachusetts firms are doing considerable work for the U. S. Department of Defense, the U. S. Department of Energy, and the Enviromental Protection Agency. This work has generated an increased demand for electronics engineers, mathematical analysts, and tool-and-diemakers.

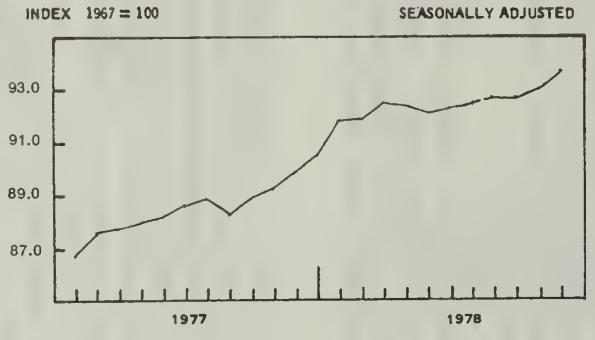
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

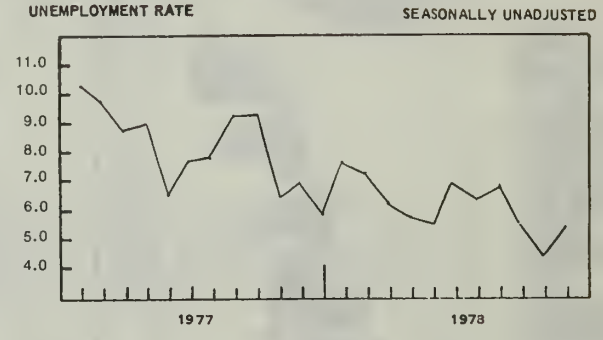
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



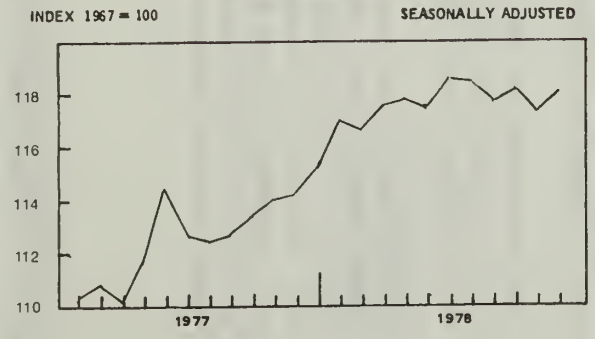
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



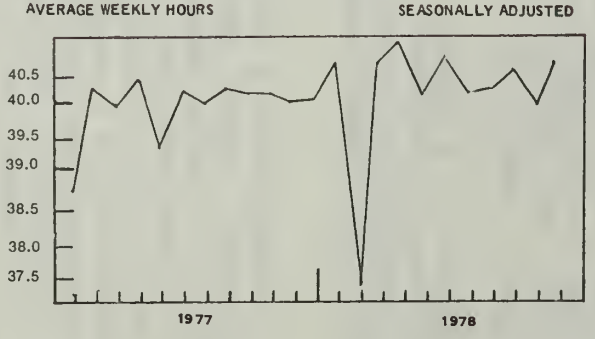
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



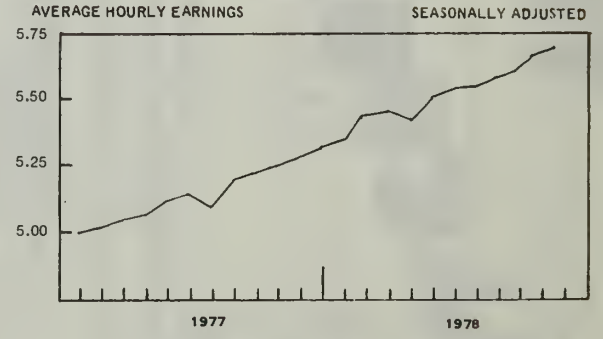
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	November 1978		October 1978		November 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,677.8	95,735.0	2,657.8	95,192.0	2,589.3	92,214.0
The Unemployment Rate*	5.2	5.5	4.3	5.4	6.9	6.4
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,528.2	87,034.0	2,525.2	86,567.0	2,429.3	83,549.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	653.8	20,594.0	651.1	20,432.0	628.9	19,849.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.6	40.6	39.9	40.4	39.9	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.68	$6.37	$5.65	$6.33	$5.28	$5.85

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	November 1978	October 1978	November 1977	November 1978	October 1978	November 1977	November 1978	October 1978	November 1977	Nov. 1978	Oct. 1978	Nov. 1977
Massachusetts	2,842,900	2,805,100	2,799,600	2,694,400	2,684,500	2,605,800	148,500	120,600	193,800	5.2	4.3	6.9
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,382,100	1,364,600	1,350,200	1,318,300	1,308,900	1,258,700	63,800	55,700	91,500	4.6	4.1	6.8
Brockton SMSA	83,700	82,600	78,600	79,200	79,000	73,100	4,500	3,600	5,500	5.4	4.4	7.0
Fall River LMA	79,200	78,200	76,500	74,300	74,400	70,900	4,900	3,800	5,600	6.2	4.9	7.4
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	140,100	138,000	131,900	131,100	130,700	121,400	9,000	7,300	10,500	6.4	5.3	8.0
Lowell LMA	113,000	111,800	109,600	106,900	106,600	102,000	6,100	5,200	7,600	5.4	4.6	6.9
New Bedford LMA	80,800	80,000	82,500	74,800	75,600	74,900	6,000	4,400	7,600	7.4	5.5	9.2
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	277,300	272,700	275,500	263,700	261,600	258,600	13,600	11,100	16,900	4.9	4.1	6.1
Worcester LMA	200,400	196,000	195,400	191,400	189,300	184,700	9,000	6,700	10,700	4.5	3.4	5.5
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,060	10,700	10,830	10,440	10,280	10,110	620	420	720	5.6	3.9	6.6
Barnstable County	57,190	58,300	59,420	51,550	54,750	52,470	5,640	3,550	6,950	9.9	6.1	11.7
Clinton	8,910	8,700	9,630	8,290	8,260	8,560	620	440	1,070	7.0	5.1	11.1
Dukes County	4,440	4,650	4,860	4,050	4,410	4,370	390	240	490	8.7	5.1	10.0
Fitchburg-Leominster	46,260	45,670	47,470	43,810	43,760	44,220	2,450	1,910	3,250	5.3	4.2	6.8
Gardner	18,700	18,330	19,110	17,570	17,540	17,770	1,130	790	1,340	6.1	4.3	7.0
Gloucester	22,980	23,240	23,950	20,800	21,730	21,500	2,180	1,510	2,450	9.5	6.5	10.2
Great Barrington	8,660	8,660	9,490	8,210	8,310	8,970	450	350	520	5.2	4.0	5.5
Greenfield	26,910	26,760	27,350	25,480	25,640	25,680	1,430	1,120	1,670	5.3	4.2	6.1
Mariboro	50,070	49,660	51,550	48,190	48,160	49,530	1,880	1,500	2,020	3.8	3.0	3.9
Milford	19,620	19,520	18,390	18,770	18,760	17,260	850	760	1,130	4.3	3.9	6.2
Nantucket	2,940	3,060	2,700	2,750	2,950	2,490	190	110	210	6.6	3.6	7.9
Newburyport	17,830	17,610	17,970	16,610	16,630	16,410	1,220	980	1,560	6.9	5.6	8.7
Pittsfield	65,680	64,840	68,840	61,460	61,570	63,960	4,220	3,270	4,880	6.4	5.0	7.1
Plymouth	34,370	33,860	33,210	31,370	31,700	30,050	3,000	2,160	3,160	8.7	6.4	9.5
Southbridge	16,130	15,800	16,280	15,210	15,210	15,450	920	590	830	5.7	3.7	5.1
Taunton	24,540	23,320	25,470	22,970	22,210	23,600	1,570	1,110	1,870	6.4	4.8	7.4
Ware	6,860	6,700	6,780	6,500	6,440	6,270	360	260	510	5.2	3.9	7.5

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

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Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

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LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1973 - 1978

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1973	2,561.0	2,390.0	171.0	6.7	4.9
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,780.0	2,555.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
August	2,851.4	2,592.7	258.8	9.1	6.8
September	2,800.9	2,546.0	254.9	9.1	6.6
October	2,795.1	2,610.2	184.9	6.6	6.3
November	2,799.6	2,605.8	193.8	6.9	6.4
December	2,789.1	2,625.5	163.7	5.9	6.0
1978					
January	2,818.8	2,606.6	212.2	7.5	7.0
February	2,793.7	2,594.2	199.5	7.1	6.9
March	2,799.0	2,626.6	172.4	6.2	6.6
April	2,793.2	2,633.5	159.7	5.7	6.0
May	2,805.9	2,653.9	152.0	5.4	5.5
June	2,939.6	2,736.2	203.4	6.9	6.2
July	2,934.1	2,747.8	186.3	6.3	6.3
August	2,905.2	2,710.0	195.2	6.7	5.8
September	2,813.5	2,651.4	162.1	5.8	5.7
October	2,805.1	2,684.5	120.6	4.3	5.4
November	2,842.9	2,694.4	148.5	5.2	5.5

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 5 No. 12 **Data for** DECEMBER 1978

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Massachusetts ended 1978 with an unemployment rate of 5.7, up one half percentage point from November's 5.2 rate. The labor force was estimated to have grown by 7,000 over the month, while the number of employed went down 8,000. While one would usually expect that the unemployment rate would go down in December, the state is simply following a national trend: the U. S. rate went from 5.5 in November to 5.6 this month. Comparing the Commonwealth to the other CPS direct use states, the ten largest states, Massachusetts was the only one to experience an increase in its rate during December; the unemployment levels for the other nine states all either remained the same or declined. However, even with this month's increase, the Commonwealth's rate for December is still lower than that for all the other direct use states except Illinois, Ohio and Texas.

A comparison of figures for December 1978 with those for December 1977 shows that the state's rate has gone down from 5.9 last year to 5.7 this year, while the Federal rate dropped from 6.0 to 5.6, reflecting the economic improvement during the period. Also, for a state that for so long had unemployment levels well above those for the country as a whole it is good that Massachusetts was able to end the year with unemployment not significantly different from national levels.

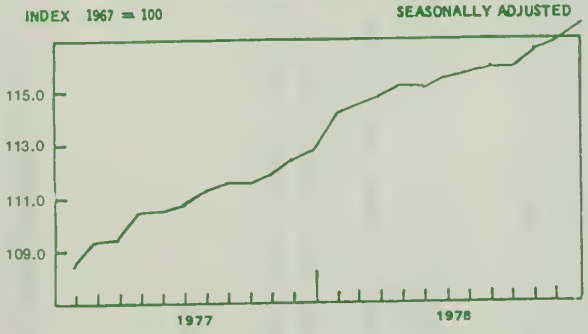
Employment in the state is estimated to have gone up 2.3 percent during the last twelve months. The Boston, Brockton and Lowell labor areas appear to have experienced the most growth, though almost all the major labor areas showed gains. The one exception is New Bedford, which is estimated to have had a near one percent decline in residential employment since December 1977. Unemployment at 162,900, ended the year virtually at the same level experienced a year ago, when there were estimated to have been 163,700 out of work.

According to the records of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, 917 new incorporations were filed in December. The Electronics Systems Division, United States Air Force awarded $1,444,670 to 14 Massachusetts industrial firms and educational institutions. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics let a contract to a Massachusetts firm. The impact of political unrest abroad upon industries involved in the productions of goods exported from the state may have ripple effects on the Massachusetts economy.

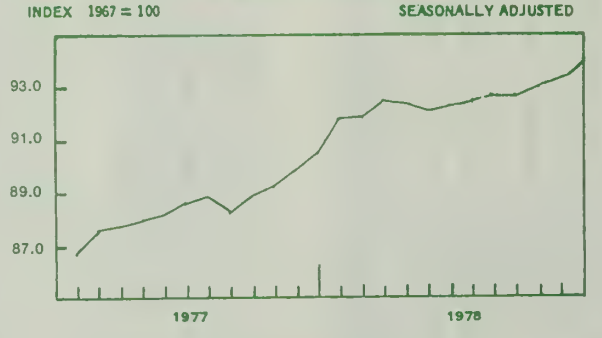
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

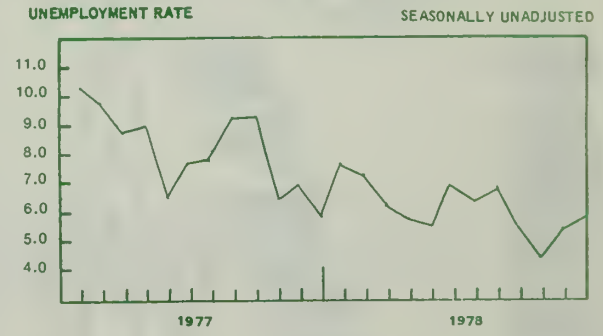
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



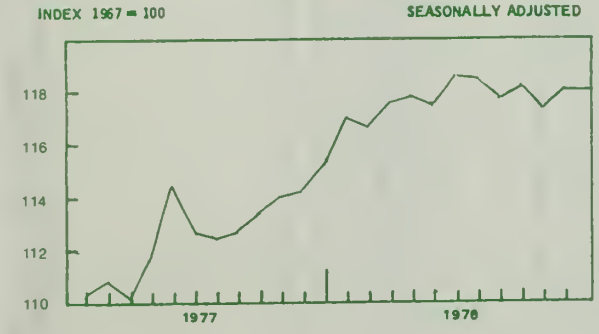
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



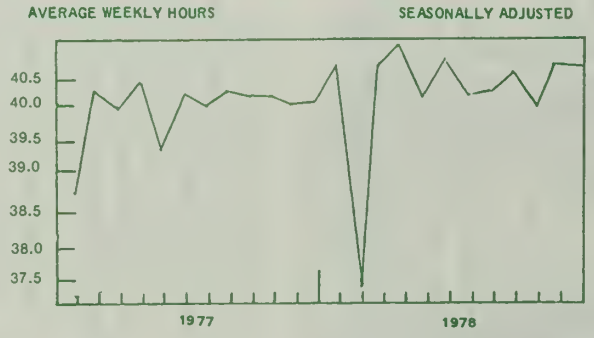
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



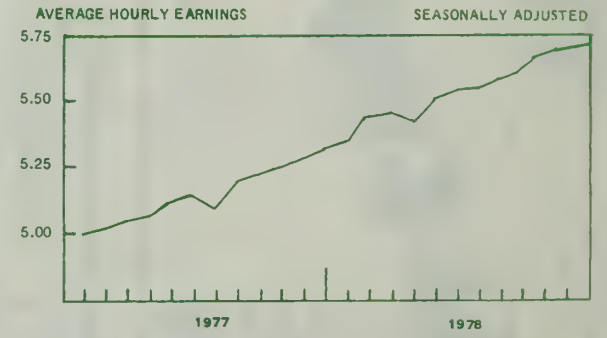
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	DECEMBER 1978		NOVEMBER 1978		DECEMBER 1977	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,674.3	95,855.0	2,677.8	95,751.0	2,612.8	92,561.0
The Unemployment Rate*	5.7	5.6	5.2	5.5	5.9	6.0
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,540.5	87,270.0	2,530.9	87,020.0	2,437.1	83,719.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	657.6	20,724.0	653.0	20,600.0	632.2	19,984.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.5	40.6	40.6	40.7	40.0	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.70	$6.45	$5.68	$6.37	$5.29	$5.92

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	December 1978	November 1978	December 1977	December 1978	November 1978	December 1977	December 1978	November 1978	December 1977	December 1978	November 1978	December 1977
Massachusetts	2,849,300	2,842,900	2,789,200	2,686,400	2,694,400	2,625,500	162,900	148,500	163,700	5.7	5.2	5.9
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,388,000	1,382,100	1,346,700	1,316,800	1,318,300	1,273,500	71,200	63,800	73,200	5.1	4.6	5.4
Brockton SMSA	84,400	83,700	78,900	79,600	79,200	74,100	4,800	4,500	4,800	5.7	5.4	6.0
Fall River LMA	79,700	79,200	77,900	73,900	74,300	72,500	5,800	4,900	5,400	7.2	6.2	6.9
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	138,600	140,100	131,900	130,100	131,100	122,400	8,500	9,000	9,500	6.1	6.4	7.2
Lowell LMA	113,200	113,000	110,300	106,800	106,900	103,500	6,400	6,100	6,800	5.7	5.4	6.2
New Bedford LMA	81,300	80,800	82,000	74,600	74,800	75,200	6,700	6,000	6,800	8.2	7.4	8.2
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	278,800	277,300	272,600	263,400	263,700	258,000	15,400	13,600	14,600	5.5	4.9	5.4
Worcester LMA	200,000	200,400	195,400	190,500	191,400	186,500	9,500	9,000	8,900	4.7	4.5	4.6
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	10,880	11,060	11,070	10,270	10,440	10,460	610	620	610	5.6	5.6	5.5
Barnstable County	56,450	57,190	56,360	50,040	51,550	49,940	6,410	5,640	6,420	11.4	9.9	11.4
Clinton	8,870	8,910	9,360	8,310	8,290	8,530	560	620	830	6.3	7.0	8.9
Dukes County	4,300	4,440	4,750	3,890	4,050	4,350	410	390	400	9.6	8.7	8.4
Fitchburg-Leominster	46,140	46,260	47,470	43,390	43,810	44,570	2,750	2,450	2,900	6.0	5.3	6.1
Gardner	18,750	18,700	18,990	17,550	17,570	17,820	1,200	1,130	1,170	6.4	6.1	6.2
Gloucester	22,960	22,980	23,840	20,550	20,800	21,320	2,410	2,180	2,520	10.5	9.5	10.6
Great Barrington	8,840	8,660	9,560	8,360	8,210	9,140	480	450	420	5.4	5.2	4.4
Greenfield	26,705	26,910	27,270	25,300	25,480	25,780	1,405	1,430	1,490	5.3	5.3	5.5
Marlboro	49,930	50,070	51,920	48,020	48,190	50,180	1,910	1,880	1,740	3.8	3.8	3.4
Milford	19,890	19,620	18,230	18,800	18,770	17,280	1,090	850	950	5.5	4.3	5.2
Nantucket	2,710	2,940	2,320	2,520	2,750	2,130	190	190	190	7.1	6.6	8.3
Newburyport	17,770	17,830	17,650	16,460	16,610	16,350	1,310	1,220	1,300	7.4	6.9	7.4
Pittsfield	66,030	65,680	68,850	61,420	61,460	64,530	4,610	4,220	4,320	7.0	6.4	6.3
Plymouth	34,170	34,370	32,390	30,780	31,370	29,410	3,390	3,000	2,980	9.9	8.7	9.2
Southbridge	15,990	16,130	15,430	15,200	15,210	14,700	790	920	730	4.9	5.7	4.7
Taunton	24,700	24,540	25,560	22,700	22,970	23,660	2,000	1,570	1,900	8.1	6.4	7.4
Ware	6,940	6,860	6,650	6,460	6,500	6,200	480	360	450	6.9	5.2	6.7

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

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April	2,793.2	2,633.5	159.7	5.7	6.0
May	2,805.9	2,653.9	152.0	5.4	5.5
June	2,939.6	2,736.2	203.4	6.9	6.2
July	2,934.1	2,747.8	186.3	6.3	6.3
August	2,905.2	2,710.0	195.2	6.7	5.8
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Vol. 7 **No.** 1 **Data for** JANUARY 1979

JANUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment within Massachusetts fell 2 percent in January, a seasonal decline. Virtually all major sectors shared in the drop; the one exception, finance, insurance and real estate, registering a growth of only six-tenth of one percent. As might be expected given the weather conditions in New England during the winter, contract construction showed the greatest loss, 14.5 percent.

Since January 1978, however, there has been an estimated increase of 100,000 jobs, or 4.2 percent. The only industries not sharing in this growth were furniture and fixtures, other electrical machinery, apparel, and leather products. Nonelectrical machinery grew 6.1 percent, instruments and food and kindred products by 5.1 percent each, and rubber and plastics products by 5 percent. Nonmanufacturing sectors which showed impressive gains were wholesale and retail trade, up 5.4 percent; services up 6 percent; and contract construction, which has an employment level a very healthy 7.9 percentage points higher than a year before despite the above mentioned seasonal decline since December. Federal and state/local employment were up only 1.1 and 1.5 percent respectively.

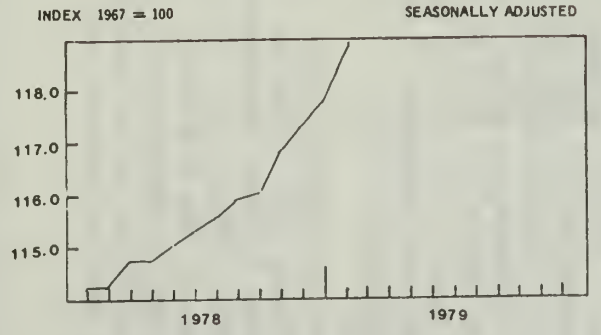
The Commonwealth's unemployment rate for January was 7.5 percent, compared to 5.7 in December 1978. While an increase of 1.8 percentage points in one month is large, the rate increase, like the nonagricultural employment decline, is seasonal and should not be thought of as out of the ordinary. To put the rate in perspective, it is helpful to compare January 1979's increase of 1.8 percent, to the 1.6 percent increase of January 1978, the 2.7 percent of January 1977, and the 1.9 percent of January 1976. It would be even better to compare the rates themselves for those months to show just how much progress the Bay State has made in the last few years. As was stated, the unemployment rate for January 1979 is 7.5 percent, for the same month in 1978, also 7.5 percent. However, the Januaries of 1977, 1976 and 1975 had rates of 10.2, 12.3, and 10.9 percent respectively.

Job openings increased 142 in January 1979 compared to January 1978. An increase of 531 individuals placed in January 1979 over January 1978 occurred. According to the records of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, 879 new incorporations were filed in January, an increase of 104 over the January 1978 level. At least $141,860,000 new contracts were announced in January. The Electronic Systems Division, United States Air Force awarded $9,304,509 to Massachusetts firms. Two Massachusetts firms received contracts from Italian firms in the communications field and the People's Republic of China let a $5 million contract with a Massachusetts firm.

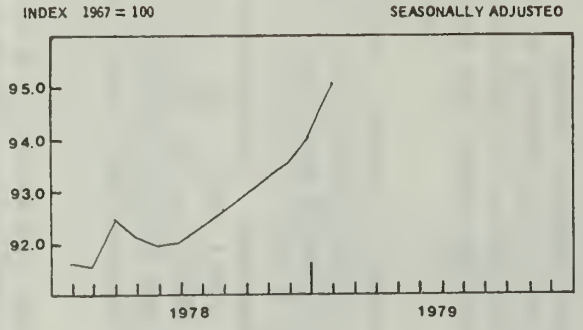
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

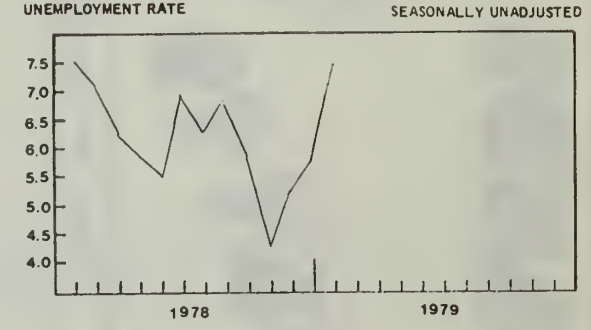
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



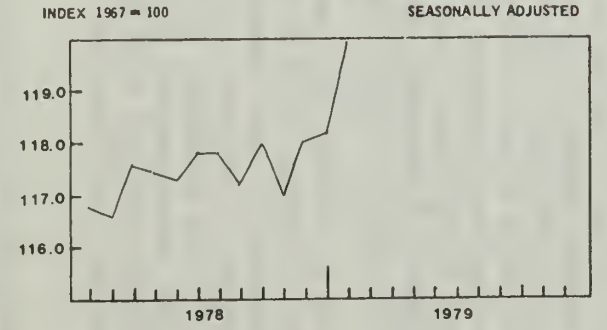
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



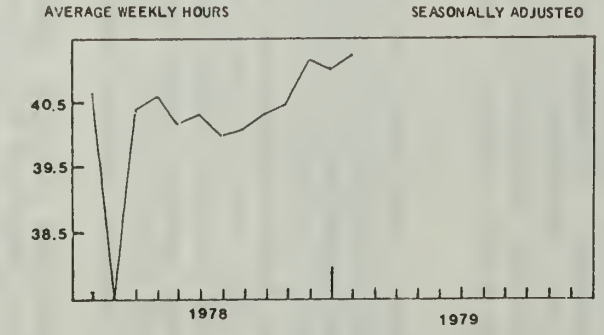
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



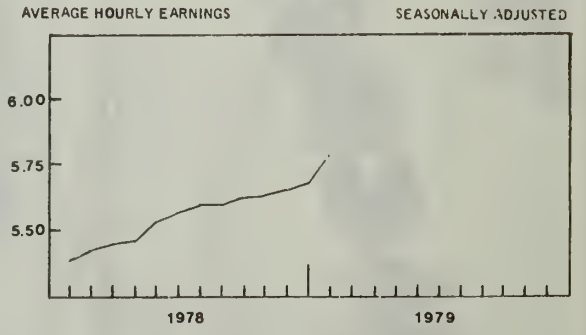
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	JANUARY 1979		DECEMBER 1978		JANUARY 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,733.4	96,300.0	2,675.0	95,855.0	2,649.1	92,923.0
The Unemployment Rate*	7.5	6.4	5.7	5.6	7.5	7.0
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,571.5	87,573.0	2,547.3	87,248.0	2,468.2	83,871.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	665.5	20,790.0	658.0	20,723.0	641.3	20,065.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	41.2	40.6	41.1	40.7	40.6	39.8
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.78	$5.47	$5.71	$6.47	$5.34	$5.97

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	January 1979	December[R] 1978	January[R] 1978	January 1979	December[R] 1978	January[R] 1978	January 1979	December[R] 1978	January[R] 1978	January 1979	December 1978	January 1978
Massachusetts	2,905,000	2,842,100	2,815,200	2,686,000	2,679,500	2,603,300	219,000	162,600	211,900	7.5	5.7	7.5
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,412,600	1,370,300	1,359,300	1,313,800	1,299,500	1,265,300	98,800	70,800	94,000	7.0	5.2	6.9
Brockton SMSA	85,500	83,400	80,000	78,700	78,700	73,600	6,800	4,700	6,400	7.9	5.6	8.0
Fall River LMA	83,800	79,800	78,900	76,200	74,000	72,000	7,600	5,800	6,900	9.1	7.3	8.8
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	140,900	139,300	138,500	129,400	130,200	126,600	11,500	9,100	11,900	8.1	6.5	8.6
Lowell LMA	116,700	112,200	113,100	107,600	105,700	103,600	9,100	6,500	9,500	7.8	5.8	8.4
New Bedford LMA	84,900	82,800	83,100	76,100	75,900	73,900	8,800	6,900	9,200	10.3	8.4	11.0
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	279,000	275,700	271,700	261,600	260,700	254,100	17,400	15,000	17,600	6.2	5.4	6.5
Worcester LMA	203,900	198,200	195,800	191,300	189,200	183,700	12,600	9,000	12,100	6.2	4.5	6.2
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,410	12,070	12,010	10,590	11,430	11,170	820	640	840	7.2	5.3	7.0
Barnstable County	62,850	69,510	57,780	54,330	63,130	49,800	8,520	6,380	7,980	13.6	9.2	13.8
Clinton	8,010	8,880	9,420	7,240	8,390	8,380	770	490	1,040	9.6	5.5	11.1
Dukes County	4,100	3,850	3,940	3,470	3,470	3,300	630	380	640	15.4	9.9	16.2
Fitchburg-Leominster	42,480	46,500	47,890	38,890	43,900	44,430	3,590	2,600	3,460	8.5	5.6	7.2
Gardner	18,160	19,980	20,160	16,480	18,780	18,620	1,680	1,200	1,540	9.3	6.0	7.6
Gloucester	23,990	23,510	23,990	20,820	21,180	20,750	3,170	2,330	3,240	13.2	9.9	13.5
Great Barrington	8,470	9,190	9,370	7,870	8,740	8,800	600	450	570	7.1	4.9	6.1
Greenfield	26,660	25,980	27,060	24,910	24,690	25,090	1,750	1,290	1,970	6.6	5.0	7.3
Marlboro	52,110	51,420	53,360	49,640	49,490	50,760	2,470	1,930	2,600	4.7	3.8	4.9
Milford	20,610	20,390	20,290	19,240	19,320	18,870	1,370	1,070	1,420	6.6	5.2	7.0
Nantucket	2,590	2,930	2,540	2,280	2,740	2,240	310	190	300	12.0	6.5	11.8
Newburyport	17,780	16,600	16,820	16,020	15,320	15,100	1,760	1,280	1,720	9.9	7.7	10.2
Pittsfield	69,590	64,600	67,390	63,410	60,220	62,020	6,180	4,380	5,370	8.9	6.8	8.0
Plymouth	35,060	35,400	34,160	30,770	32,210	30,120	4,290	3,190	4,040	12.2	9.0	11.8
Southbridge	16,075	15,900	15,990	15,000	15,110	14,980	1,075	790	1,010	6.7	5.0	6.3
Taunton	26,640	24,250	25,340	24,040	22,300	22,870	2,600	1,950	2,470	9.7	8.0	9.8
Ware	7,030	6,850	6,480	6,460	6,390	5,890	570	460	590	8.1	6.8	9.1

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Ra	
				Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,777.0	2,552.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
1978	2,836.0	2,663.0	173.0	6.1	6.0
January	2,815.2	2,603.3	211.9	7.5	7.0
February	2,789.5	2,590.3	199.2	7.1	6.9
March	2,794.6	2,622.5	172.1	6.2	6.6
April	2,789.3	2,629.9	159.4	5.7	6.0
May	2,800.4	2,648.7	151.7	5.4	5.5
June	2,933.4	2,730.4	203.0	6.9	6.2
July	2,927.1	2,741.3	185.9	6.3	6.3
August	2,898.3	2,703.6	194.7	6.7	5.8
September	2,807.3	2,645.4	161.7	5.8	5.7
October	2,797.8	2,677.5	120.3	4.3	5.4
November	2,835.6	2,687.5	148.1	5.2	5.5
December	2,842.0	2,679.5	162.5	5.7	5.6
1979					
January	2,904.6	2,685.4	219.2	7.5	6.4

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASS. MA 20.4: vol 7, no.2

MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 7 **No.** 2 **Data for** FEBRUARY 1979

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

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The Massachusetts labor force grew by 13,000 during February 1979. While such a small growth is not too important in itself, the increase becomes significant in comparison with the two prior years, when from January to February the labor force declined. Employment was up 39,000, or 1.5 percent; while the number of unemployed declined by 26,000, 11.9 percent. These figures show that even though the predicted mild national recession may cause the state's economy to turn down, or remain static, later this year; at least in February, Massachusetts was still showing a healthy expansion. The unemployment rate, at 6.6 percent, was only two-tenths percentage points higher than the national rate, as opposed to nine-tenths higher in January.

February's total for nonagricultural wage and salary employment was 2,514,600, 97,500 jobs more than in February 1978. Manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade, and services each expanded by more than 20,000 jobs during the year.

Even contract construction is looking well in comparison to last year. Construction in New England, highly seasonal due to our weather, continued its decline from its August 1978 high. However, in relation to February 1978, the employment levels of February 1979 were 8.5 percent higher.

Contracts for construction totaled at least $341.7 million during the last four months; about one quarter, $85.5 million, being for residential construction, the remainder for nonresidential construction.

Over a quarter billion dollars was contracted for nonresidential construction during the last four months. The largest monthly total, $116 million was in January due to a $71 million transportation system contract to be used for expansion of Greater Boston's MBTA Red Line subway. (Source, F. W. Dodge Bulletin)

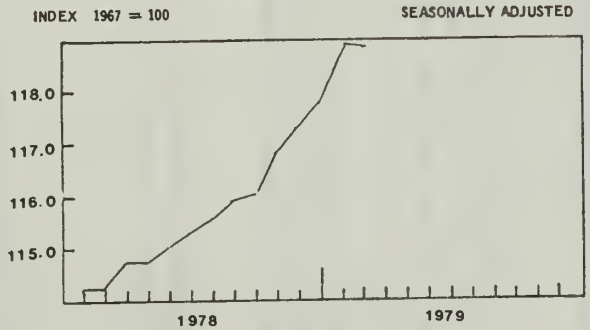
The Army Corps of Engineers has let three contracts to Massachusetts firms to survey the approximate 1,000 nonfederal dams in Massachusetts which have a minimum height of six feet and a storage capacity of 50 acre feet or 25 feet high with 15 acre feet of storage.

The Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth indicated there were 757 new incorporations filed in February, an increase of 205 over February, 1978

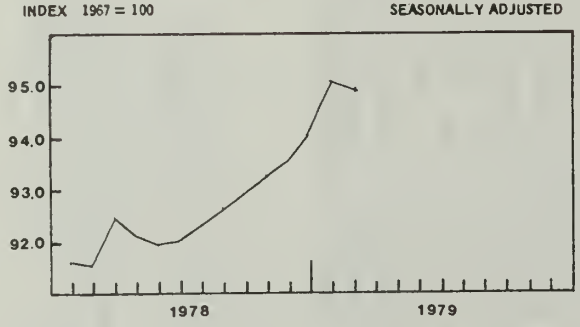
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

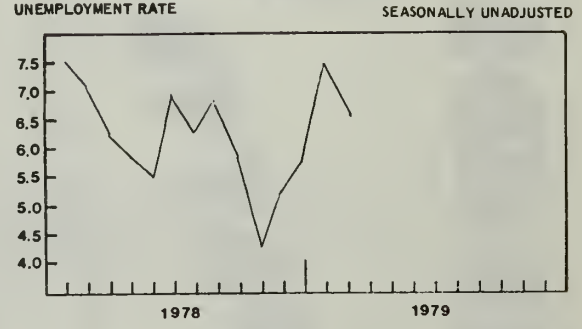
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



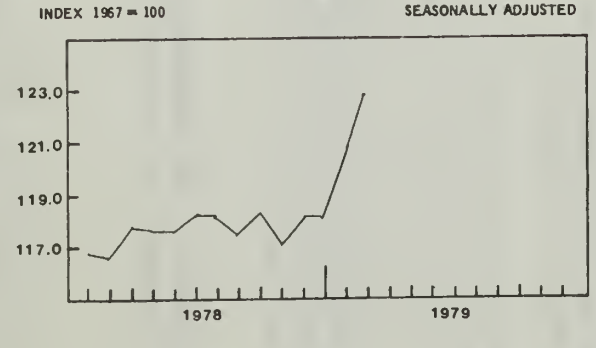
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



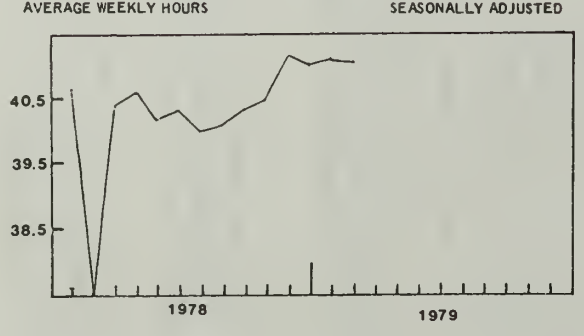
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	FEBRUARY 1979		JANUARY 1978		FEBRUARY 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,781.2	96,647.0	2,733.4	96,300.0	2,643.1	93,047.0
The Unemployment Rate*	6.6	6.4	7.5	6.4	7.1	6.9
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,568.0	87,766.0	2,573.7	87,465.0	2,468.4	84,188.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	665.0	20,885.0	665.5	20,812.0	640.6	20,139.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	41.0	41.4	41.1	41.4	37.6	40.7
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.83	$6.50	$5.79	$6.48	$5.42	$5.98

Ø In 000's

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	February 1979	January 1978	February 1978	February 1979	January 1978	February 1978	February 1979	January 1978	February 1978	February 1979	January 1978	February 1978
Massachusetts	2,918,000	2,905,000	2,789,500	2,725,000	2,686,000	2,590,300	193,000	219,000	199,200	6.6	7.5	7.1
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,411,300	1,406,900	1,348,400	1,324,600	1,308,200	1,257,800	86,700	98,700	90,600	6.1	7.0	6.7
Brockton SMSA	85,600	85,100	80,000	79,700	78,300	73,400	5,900	6,800	6,600	6.9	8.0	8.2
Fall River LMA	82,200	83,500	78,700	75,400	75,900	71,800	6,800	7,600	6,900	8.3	9.1	8.7
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	141,500	140,300	138,000	131,600	128,900	126,800	9,900	11,400	11,200	7.0	8.2	8.1
Lowell LMA	115,800	116,200	111,100	108,800	107,100	102,900	7,000	9,100	8,200	6.0	7.8	7.4
New Bedford LMA	85,500	84,600	81,900	76,900	75,800	73,700	8,600	8,800	8,200	10.1	10.4	10.1
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	284,900	277,800	271,900	269,200	260,500	255,900	15,700	17,300	16,000	5.5	6.2	5.9
Worcester LMA	202,900	203,100	193,500	192,000	190,500	182,400	10,900	12,600	11,100	5.3	6.2	5.8
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,400	11,370	11,960	10,720	10,550	11,200	680	820	760	6.0	7.2	6.4
Barnstable County	62,450	62,600	56,200	54,800	54,100	49,300	7,650	8,500	6,900	12.2	13.6	12.3
Clinton	9,420	8,900	9,250	8,750	8,120	8,330	670	780	920	7.1	8.7	10.0
Dukes County	3,970	4,080	3,720	3,410	3,450	3,120	560	630	600	14.2	15.5	16.2
Fitchburg-Leominster	50,110	50,330	47,700	46,900	46,580	44,300	3,210	3,750	3,400	6.4	7.5	7.1
Gardner	20,880	20,880	19,720	19,420	19,150	18,450	1,460	1,730	1,270	7.0	8.3	6.4
Gloucester	24,390	23,900	23,620	21,620	20,730	21,110	2,770	3,170	2,510	11.3	13.3	10.6
Great Barrington	8,470	8,440	9,200	7,960	7,840	8,660	510	600	540	6.1	7.1	5.9
Greenfield	26,410	26,540	27,070	24,790	24,800	25,280	1,620	1,740	1,790	6.1	6.6	6.6
Marlboro	52,460	51,890	52,790	50,050	49,420	50,280	2,410	2,470	2,510	4.6	4.8	4.7
Milford	20,390	20,530	19,880	19,130	19,160	18,530	1,260	1,370	1,350	6.2	6.7	6.8
Nantucket	2,570	2,580	2,410	2,260	2,270	2,140	310	310	270	12.1	12.1	11.1
Newburyport	17,840	17,710	16,400	16,200	15,950	14,900	1,640	1,760	1,500	9.2	9.9	9.2
Pittsfield	68,860	69,310	66,510	63,510	63,140	61,600	5,350	6,170	4,910	7.8	8.9	7.4
Plymouth	34,820	34,930	33,440	30,800	30,640	29,560	4,020	4,290	3,880	11.5	12.3	11.6
Southbridge	16,490	16,010	16,010	15,560	14,940	15,070	930	1,070	940	5.6	6.7	5.9
Taunton	26,380	26,530	24,170	23,970	23,940	21,870	2,410	2,590	2,300	9.1	9.8	9.5
Ware	7,080	7,000	6,450	6,560	6,430	5,880	520	570	570	7.4	8.1	8.8

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

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MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,777.0	2,552.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
1978	2,836.0	2,663.0	173.0	6.1	6.0
January	2,815.2	2,603.3	211.9	7.5	7.0
February	2,789.5	2,590.3	199.2	7.1	6.9
March	2,794.6	2,622.5	172.1	6.2	6.6
April	2,789.3	2,629.9	159.4	5.7	6.0
May	2,800.4	2,648.7	151.7	5.4	5.5
June	2,933.4	2,730.4	203.0	6.9	6.2
July	2,927.1	2,741.3	185.9	6.3	6.3
August	2,898.3	2,703.6	194.7	6.7	5.8
September	2,807.3	2,645.4	161.7	5.8	5.7
October	2,797.8	2,677.5	120.3	4.3	5.4
November	2,835.6	2,687.5	148.1	5.2	5.5
December	2,842.0	2,679.5	162.5	5.7	5.6
1979					
January	2,904.6	2,685.4	219.2	7.5	6.4
February	2,918.0	2,725.0	193.0	6.6	6.4

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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ASS.MA 20.4: Vol 7/No.3

MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

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Vol. 7 **No.** 3 **Data for** MARCH 1979

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Massachusetts' unemployment rate for March 1979 was 6.7 percent, only a slight decline from February's rate of 6.6 percent. This produced a first quarter 1979 unemployment rate of 6.9 percent which equalled the 6.9 percent rate of the first quarter of 1978. Although the overall unemployment rate remained the same, there have been some noticeable changes in the Massachusetts economy. Employment has increased by 101,000 over the year to keep pace with the increase in the labor force.

A major portion of the labor force growth continues to be the result of the increased participation by females as more than twice as many females than males entered the labor force over the year. Due to this labor force growth, the female unemployment rate increased by 0.6 percentage points vis-a-vis a 0.4 percentage point decrease for males.

March has seen the national Urban Workers Consumer Price Index rise to 209.3; in March 1978 it stood at 189.7 (Base year 1967 equals 100.0). A statewide Consumer Price Index is not done for Massachusetts by the Federal Department of Commerce. However the Index compiled for Urban Workers in the Boston area stood at 204.3 in March, up from 187.8 a year earlier. While inflation has been a major problem both locally and nationally, it appears that during the past year, our inflation in the Commonwealth has been somewhat less severe here than it has nationally.

During the first quarter of 1979, claims were not appreciably different than they had been from January to March of 1978. The survey weeks for the first three months of 1978 averaged about 97,200 continued U.I. weeks claimed, this year the average is 95,400. Initial claims were higher during the quarter last year, but this was due to the effects of the February 1978 Blizzard. In the first quarter of 1979, there has been a decrease in new employment service applicants and in job openings received compared to the first quarter of 1978. This could be a precursor of stabilization in the levels of employment.

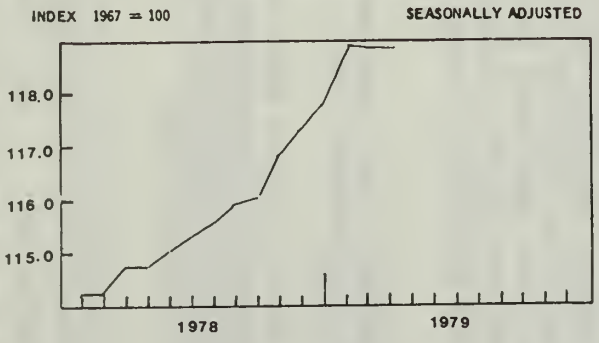
The Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth indicated that there were 874 new incorporations filed in March, an increase of 117 over February 1979.

The Labor Area Research Department has published special reports which are available upon request. They are Scientific Instruments Industry in Massachusetts, Massachusetts Labor Market Information on Veterans, Massachusetts Labor Market Information on the Handicapped, and Women and Youth in the Massachusetts Labor Force.

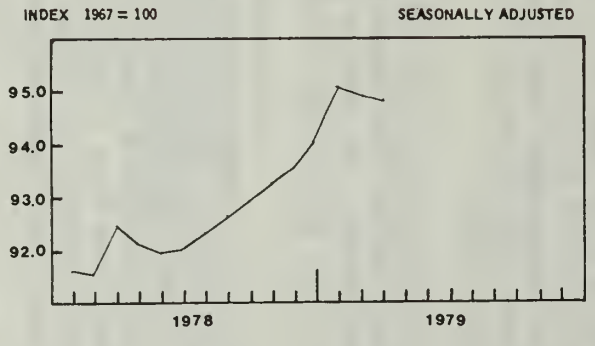
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

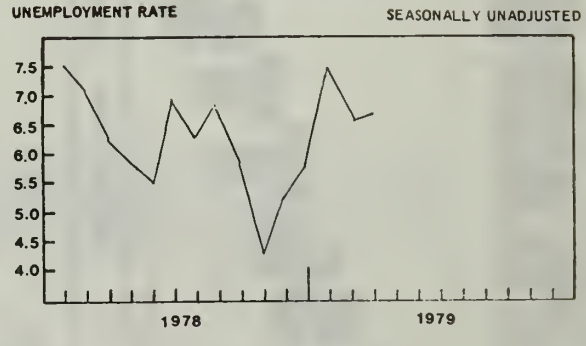
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



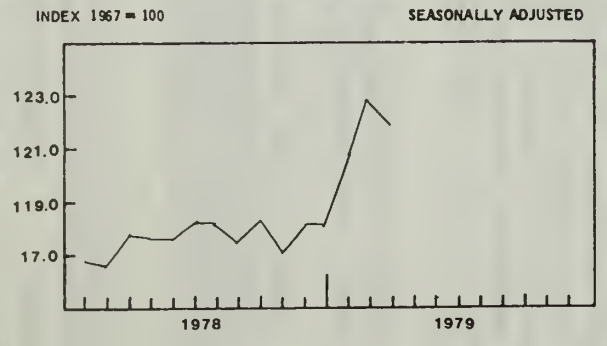
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



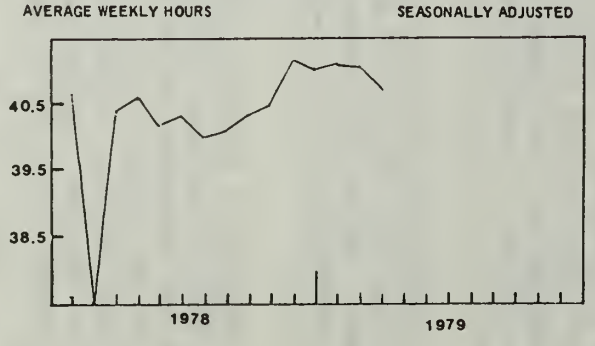
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



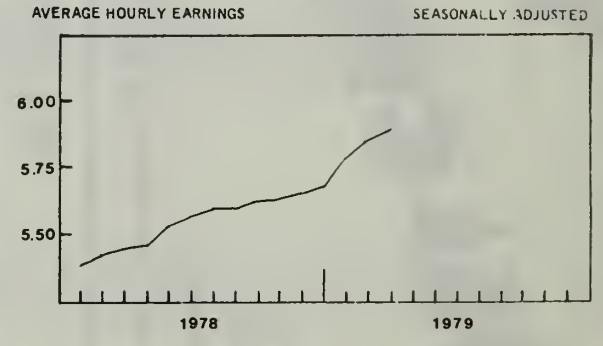
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	March 1979		February 1979		March 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,765.7	96,842.0	2,781.2	96,647.0	2,664.9	93,282.0
The Unemployment Rate*	6.7	6.1	6.6	6.4	6.2	6.6
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,569.0	88,156.0	2,567.5	87,832.0	2,478.8	84,726.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	663.4	20,972.0	665.0	20,902.0	646.3	20,230.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.7	40.8	41.0	40.7	40.3	40.6
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.87	$6.56	$5.83	$6.52	$5.43	$6.00

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	March 1979	February 1979	March 1978	March 1979	February 1979	March 1978	March 1979	February 1979	March 1978	March 1979	February 1979	March 1978
Massachusetts	2,913,800	2,917,700	2,794,600	2,719,700	2,724,600	2,622,500	194,100	193,100	172,100	6.7	6.6	6.2
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,408,300	1,411,300	1,354,400	1,321,900	1,324,600	1,275,500	86,400	86,700	78,900	6.1	6.1	5.8
Brockton SMSA	85,300	85,600	79,300	79,600	79,700	74,200	5,700	5,900	5,100	6.7	6.9	6.5
Fall River LMA	82,900	82,200	78,200	75,800	75,400	72,900	7,100	6,800	5,300	8.6	8.3	6.8
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	143,900	141,500	137,800	133,200	131,600	128,900	10,700	9,900	8,900	7.4	7.0	6.5
Lowell LMA	116,200	115,800	111,000	108,800	108,800	103,900	7,400	7,000	7,100	6.4	6.0	6.4
New Bedford LMA	85,600	85,500	80,300	77,400	76,900	73,100	8,200	8,600	7,200	9.5	10.1	8.9
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	281,300	284,900	272,100	264,100	269,200	257,500	17,200	15,700	14,600	6.1	5.5	5.4
Worcester LMA	202,000	202,900	193,600	191,500	192,000	183,800	10,500	10,900	9,800	5.2	5.3	5.1
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,510	11,400	11,930	10,820	10,720	11,340	690	680	590	6.0	6.0	5.0
Barnstable County	63,400	62,450	57,030	55,900	54,800	50,790	7,500	7,650	6,240	11.8	12.2	10.9
Clinton	9,450	9,420	9,160	8,830	8,750	8,400	620	670	760	6.5	7.1	8.3
Dukes County	4,140	3,970	3,750	3,540	3,410	3,250	600	560	500	14.4	14.2	13.4
Fitchburg-Leominster	49,490	50,110	47,520	46,370	46,900	44,710	3,120	3,210	2,810	6.3	6.4	5.9
Gardner	21,090	20,880	19,810	19,640	19,420	18,720	1,450	1,460	1,090	6.9	7.0	5.5
Gloucester	24,450	24,390	23,900	21,870	21,620	21,600	2,580	2,770	2,300	10.6	11.3	9.6
Great Barrington	8,340	8,470	9,120	7,800	7,960	8,660	540	510	460	6.4	6.1	5.0
Greenfield	26,430	26,410	26,680	24,680	24,790	25,070	1,750	1,620	1,610	6.6	6.1	6.0
Marlboro	52,020	52,460	52,860	49,890	50,050	50,660	2,130	2,410	2,200	4.1	4.6	4.2
Milford	20,440	20,390	20,080	19,280	19,130	18,990	1,160	1,260	1,090	5.7	6.2	5.4
Nantucket	2,610	2,570	2,470	2,340	2,260	2,250	270	310	220	10.5	12.1	9.0
Newburyport	17,870	17,840	16,590	16,340	16,200	15,230	1,530	1,640	1,360	8.6	9.2	8.2
Pittsfield	68,050	68,860	66,350	62,510	63,510	61,860	5,540	5,350	4,490	8.1	7.8	6.8
Plymouth	35,760	34,820	33,850	31,700	30,800	30,480	4,060	4,020	3,370	11.4	11.5	9.9
Southbridge	17,160	16,490	15,890	16,210	15,560	15,120	950	930	770	5.5	5.6	4.8
Taunton	26,260	26,380	24,230	24,050	23,970	22,250	2,210	2,410	1,980	8.4	9.1	8.2
Ware	7,030	7,080	6,480	6,540	6,560	6,000	490	520	480	7.0	7.4	7.5

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rat Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,777.0	2,552.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
1978	2,836.0	2,663.0	173.0	6.1	6.0
January	2,815.2	2,603.3	211.9	7.5	7.0
February	2,789.5	2,590.3	199.2	7.1	6.9
March	2,794.6	2,622.5	172.1	6.2	6.6
April	2,789.3	2,629.9	159.4	5.7	6.0
May	2,800.4	2,648.7	151.7	5.4	5.5
June	2,933.4	2,730.4	203.0	6.9	6.2
July	2,927.1	2,741.3	185.9	6.3	6.3
August	2,898.3	2,703.6	194.7	6.7	5.8
September	2,807.3	2,645.4	161.7	5.8	5.7
October	2,797.8	2,677.5	120.3	4.3	5.4
November	2,835.6	2,687.5	148.1	5.2	5.5
December	2,842.0	2,679.5	162.5	5.7	5.6
1979					
January	2,904.6	2,685.4	219.2	7.5	6.4
February	2,918.0	2,725.0	193.0	6.6	6.4
March	2,913.8	2,719.7	194.1	6.7	6.1

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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Labor Force
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Unemployment

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Vol. 7 **No.** 4 **Data for** APRIL 1979

APRIL HIGHLIGHTS

Total employment in Massachusetts reached a record level for the month of April, climbing to 2,730,700, an increase of 100,800 workers, over the corresponding level for April 1978. The nonagricultural employment estimates registered an increase of 88,200 jobs over the year.

Unemployment declined over the year by 41,800 workers to 152,300, the lowest level recorded this year. The actual number of unemployed decreased by 21.5 percent from April to March while during the same month at the national level unemployment decreased only 10.9 percent. With a labor force of 2,883,000 individuals, the level of unemployment in Massachusetts represented 5.3 percent of the labor force, a decrease of 1.4 percentage points from the prior month's seasonally unadjusted estimate. Nationally, the seasonally unadjusted rate decreased 0.6 percentage points to 5.5 percent, while the seasonally adjusted rate increased 0.1 percentage points to 5.8 from last month.

The state's manufacturing industries reported few significant changes in employment. The largest net change in any manufacturing industry from March to April was the addition of 1,000 workers in fabricated metals following a settlement of a labor dispute.

The most significant change in the employment picture was registered in the nonmanufacturing sector which showed a gain of approximately 33,100 jobs from the previous month. During the month of April the state experienced large gains over the March level in the areas of contract construction (8,600), wholesale and retail trade (11,600) and services, miscellaneous and mining (10,900). These changes were even aided by increases in all the remaining nonmanufacturing industries.

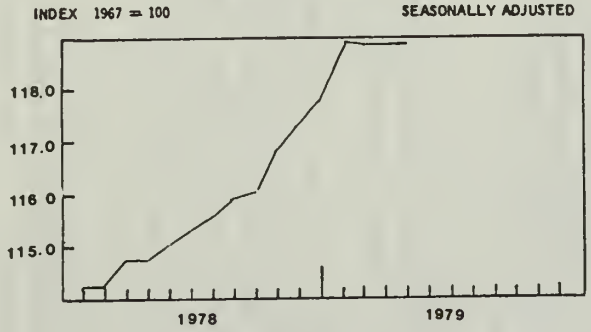
The above economic indicators show that the Commonwealth is holding its own under the so-called period of economic termoil that is in evidence nationally. However, Massachusetts is experiencing a substantial number of labor disputes and layoffs.

For the third consecutive month, new job orders received by the Job Match Service have decreased in comparison with the prior year. A Labor Department report in January, 1979 indicated that at 161 local job banks surveyed nationwide there were 18 percent fewer job openings available than there were a year before. The Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth indicated that there were 878 new incorporations filed in April, an increase of 50 over April, 1978. The new incorporations from January 1979 through April, 1979 are at their highest level since 1973.

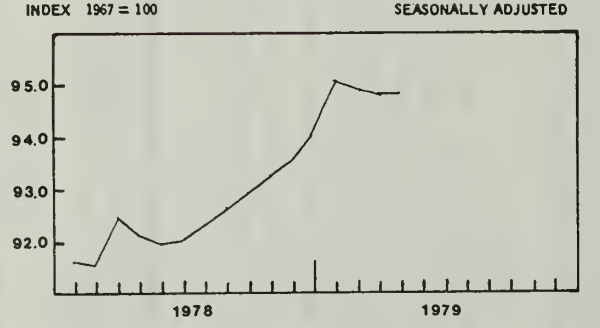
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

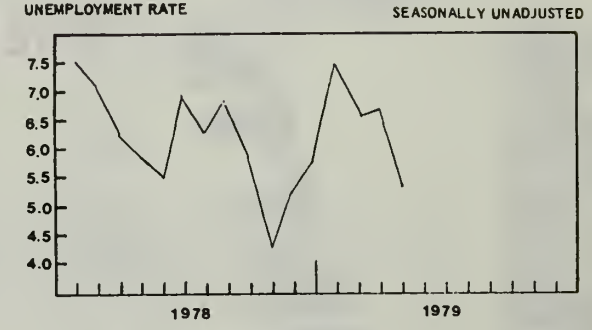
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



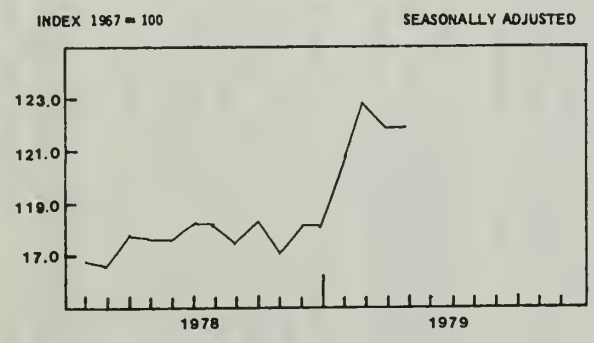
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



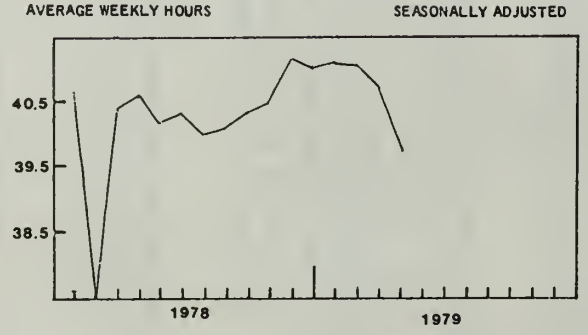
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



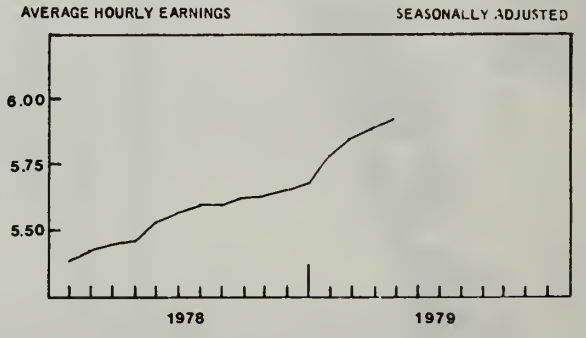
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	April 1979		March 1979		April 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,764.3	96,174.0	2,765.7	96,842.0	2,662.9	93,704.0
The Unemployment Rate*	5.3	5.5	6.7	6.1	5.7	5.8
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,568.4	88,312.0	2,569.4	88,240.0	2,479.7	85,418.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	663.1	20,941.0	663.5	20,960.0	644.2	20,282.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.6	39.1	40.7	40.8	40.5	40.8
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.91	$6.53	$5.87	$6.55	$5.43	$6.03

ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978	April 1979	March 1979	April 1978
Massachusetts	2,883,000	2,913,800	2,789,300	2,730,700	2,719,700	2,629,900	152,300	194,100	159,400	5.3	6.7	5.7
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,390,200	1,408,300	1,346,400	1,320,900	1,321,900	1,271,200	69,300	86,400	75,200	5.0	6.1	5.6
Brockton SMSA	85,600	85,300	79,300	80,900	79,600	74,600	4,700	5,700	4,700	5.5	6.7	5.9
Fall River LMA	82,000	83,900	77,600	76,900	75,800	72,200	5,100	7,100	5,400	6.2	8.6	6.9
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	140,800	143,900	138,100	133,100	133,200	130,200	7,700	10,700	7,900	5.5	7.4	5.7
Lowell LMA	115,300	116,200	109,800	109,200	108,800	103,300	6,100	7,400	6,500	5.3	6.4	5.9
New Bedford LMA	83,800	85,600	81,300	77,300	77,400	75,100	6,500	8,200	6,200	7.7	9.5	7.6
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	280,500	281,300	270,700	268,000	264,100	257,300	12,500	12,200	13,400	4.4	6.1	5.0
Worcester LMA	201,700	202,000	195,600	192,500	191,500	186,500	9,200	10,500	9,100	4.6	5.2	4.7
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	10,300	11,510	11,620	9,800	10,820	11,110	500	690	510	4.9	6.0	4.4
Barnstable County	62,600	63,400	61,900	57,600	55,900	56,900	5,000	7,500	5,000	8.0	11.8	8.1
Clinton	9,420	9,450	8,880	8,920	8,830	8,180	500	620	700	5.3	6.5	7.9
Dukes County	4,190	4,140	3,960	3,810	3,540	3,630	380	600	330	9.0	14.4	8.2
Fitchburg-Leominster	48,440	49,490	46,760	46,240	46,370	44,300	2,200	3,120	2,460	4.5	6.3	5.3
Gardner	20,840	21,090	19,550	19,760	19,640	18,580	1,080	1,450	970	5.2	6.9	5.0
Gloucester	24,260	24,450	23,370	22,370	21,870	21,310	1,890	2,580	2,060	7.8	10.6	8.8
Great Barrington	8,470	8,340	8,970	8,060	7,800	8,540	410	540	430	4.9	6.4	4.8
Greenfield	26,450	26,430	26,380	25,050	24,680	24,880	1,400	1,750	1,500	5.3	6.6	5.7
Marlboro	52,710	52,020	52,870	50,760	49,890	50,770	1,950	2,130	2,100	3.7	4.1	4.0
Milford	20,420	20,440	20,170	19,430	19,280	19,120	990	1,160	1,050	4.8	5.7	5.2
Nantucket	2,570	2,610	2,680	2,400	2,340	2,510	170	270	170	6.5	10.5	6.4
Newburyport	17,640	17,870	16,640	16,420	16,340	15,460	1,220	1,530	1,180	6.9	8.6	7.1
Pittsfield	66,890	68,050	65,020	62,480	62,510	60,840	4,410	5,540	4,180	6.6	8.1	6.4
Plymouth	35,360	35,760	34,020	32,320	31,700	31,200	3,040	4,060	2,820	8.6	11.4	8.3
Southbridge	16,900	17,160	15,610	16,120	16,210	14,960	780	950	650	4.6	5.5	4.2
Taunton	26,390	26,260	25,620	24,660	24,050	23,880	1,730	2,210	1,740	6.6	8.4	6.8
Ware	6,980	7,030	6,580	6,570	6,540	6,140	410	490	440	5.9	7.0	6.6

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,777.0	2,552.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
1978	2,836.0	2,663.0	173.0	6.1	6.0
January	2,815.2	2,603.3	211.9	7.5	7.0
February	2,789.5	2,590.3	199.2	7.1	6.9
March	2,794.6	2,622.5	172.1	6.2	6.6
April	2,789.3	2,629.9	159.4	5.7	6.0
May	2,800.4	2,648.7	151.7	5.4	5.5
June	2,933.4	2,730.4	203.0	6.9	6.2
July	2,927.1	2,741.3	185.9	6.3	6.3
August	2,898.3	2,703.6	194.7	6.7	5.8
September	2,807.3	2,645.4	161.7	5.8	5.7
October	2,797.8	2,677.5	120.3	4.3	5.4
November	2,835.6	2,687.5	148.1	5.2	5.5
December	2,842.0	2,679.5	162.5	5.7	5.6
1979					
January	2,904.6	2,685.4	219.2	7.5	6.4
February	2,918.0	2,725.0	193.0	6.6	6.4
March	2,913.8	2,719.7	194.1	6.7	6.1
April	2,883.0	2,730.7	152.3	5.5	5.8

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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Pubs. MA20.4:Vol.7,No.5

MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 7 **No.** 5 **Data for** MAY 1979

MAY HIGHLIGHTS

The Commonwealth's seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate for May was 5.0, the lowest monthly rate since last October. For the first five months of 1979, unemployment has averaged lower than during any January-May period since 1970. Nationally, the unadjusted rate of 5.2 was three-tenths of a percentage point lower than in April, although the adjusted rate remained at 5.8 percent.

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment grew by 16,700 jobs since April, and it was 86,000 jobs, or 3.4 percent higher than in May of 1978. Since January of this year there has been an increase in nonagricultural employment of 2.5 percent, compared to the 3.3 percent growth experienced from January to May of 1978.

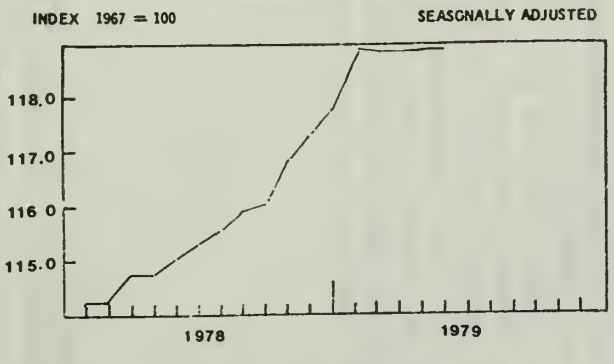
Among manufacturing industries, durable goods have shown the strongest gains, up 3.9 percent. The increase would be greater were it not for strikes in the furniture, primary metals, fabricated metals, and nonelectrical machinery industries. During May of 1978, nondurable goods employment overall was virtually the same as it had been a year earlier. Small gains were shown by textiles, printing and chemicals while declines were experienced by apparel and leather goods. All the nonmanufacturing sectors registered over-the-year increases, the largest were by construction (4.8 percent), wholesale and retail trade (5 percent), and services (5.2 percent).

The average weekly wages of the state's manufacturing production workers have increased by 5.8 percent during the last twelve months. Durable and nondurable goods worker's wages went up by 5.8 and 5.4 percent respectively. Since the Consumer Price Index has been rising at a much faster clip, the average Massachusetts production worker has experienced a loss of purchasing power during the year. Although average hourly earnings are up 7.7 percent overall, workers were on the job fewer hours this year than last year in all manufacturing industries except transportation equipment, food processing, printing and chemicals. Hourly earnings of nondurable goods workers averaged 8.1 percent higher over the year, with increases of over nine percent in the chemical and leather industries. In the durable goods sector workers in primary metals were the greatest gainers, with hourly wages up 10.7 percent, although above average increases also occurred in the fabricated metals, electrical machinery, and transportation equipment industries.

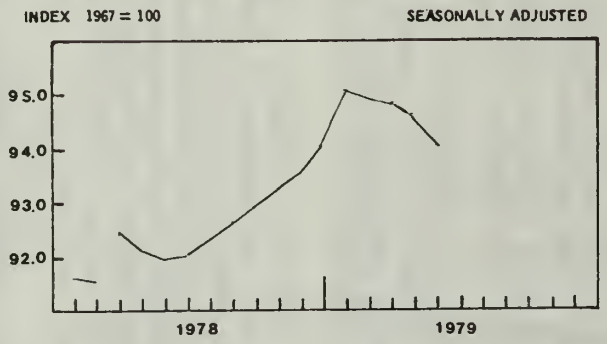
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

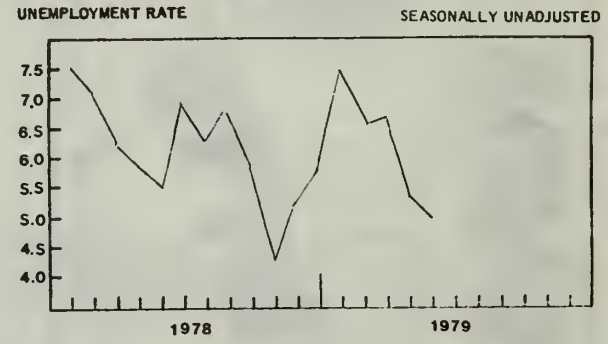
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



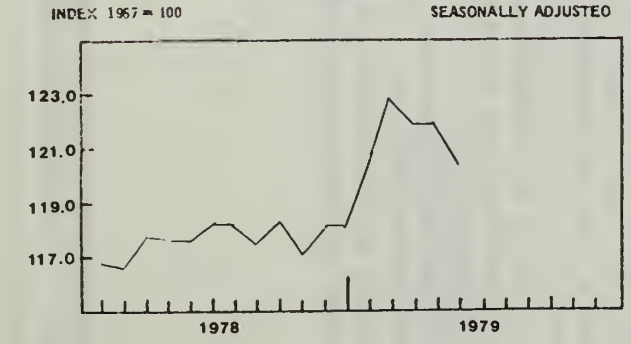
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



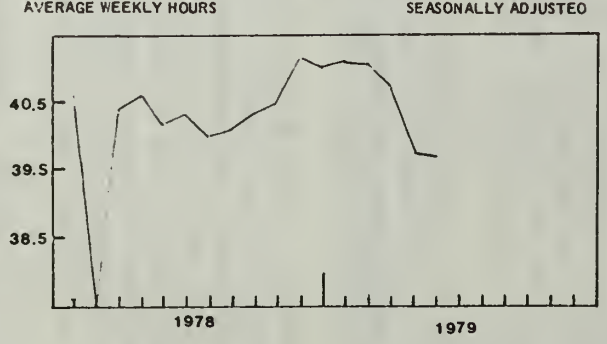
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



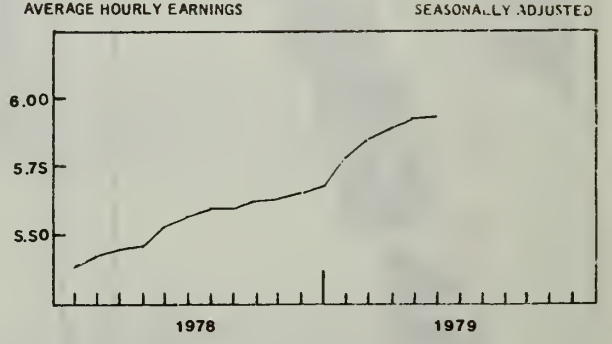
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	MAY 1979		APRIL 1979		MAY 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,726.0	96,318.0	2,764.3	96,174.0	2,661.3	93,953.0
The Unemployment Rate*	5.0	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.4	5.5
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,570.0	88,438.0	2,569.0	88,267.0	2,484.7	85,618.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	657.5	20,897.0	661.1	20,928.0	643.1	20,297.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.5	40.2	39.1	39.2	40.2	40.4
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.93	$6.62	$5.90	$6.54	$5.51	$6.07

Ø In 000's
1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978	May 1979	April 1979	May 1978
Massachusetts	2,855,600	2,883,000	2,800,400	2,712,900	2,730,700	2,648,700	142,700	152,300	151,700	5.0	5.3	5.4
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,372,800	1,390,200	1,351,400	1,306,400	1,320,900	1,278,400	66,400	69,300	73,000	4.8	5.0	5.4
Brockton SMSA	84,500	85,600	79,600	80,000	80,900	75,200	4,500	4,700	4,400	5.3	5.5	5.6
Fall River LMA	81,500	82,000	76,900	76,700	76,900	72,600	4,800	5,100	4,300	5.9	6.2	5.6
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	143,100	140,800	137,300	135,400	133,100	130,100	7,700	7,700	7,200	5.4	5.5	5.3
Lowell LMA	114,600	115,300	110,900	108,700	109,200	104,900	5,900	6,100	6,000	5.2	5.3	5.5
New Bedford LMA	83,500	83,800	81,800	77,600	77,300	75,800	5,900	6,500	6,000	7.0	7.7	7.3
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	277,600	280,500	272,600	265,900	268,000	259,400	11,700	12,500	13,200	4.2	4.4	4.9
Worcester LMA	198,200	201,700	192,800	190,000	192,500	184,300	8,200	9,200	8,500	4.1	4.6	4.4
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,400	10,300	11,700	10,920	9,800	11,200	480	500	500	4.2	4.9	4.3
Barnstable County	64,070	62,600	66,000	59,720	57,600	61,490	4,350	5,000	4,510	6.8	8.0	6.8
Clinton	9,180	9,420	8,760	8,710	8,920	8,140	470	500	620	5.1	5.3	7.1
Dukes County	4,470	4,190	4,400	4,190	3,810	4,170	280	380	230	6.2	9.0	5.3
Fitchburg-Leominster	47,450	48,440	46,720	45,340	46,240	44,390	2,110	2,200	2,330	4.5	4.5	5.0
Gardner	20,450	20,840	19,820	19,450	19,760	18,640	1,000	1,080	1,180	4.9	5.2	6.0
Gloucester	24,640	24,260	24,100	22,920	22,370	22,330	1,720	1,890	1,770	7.0	7.8	7.3
Great Barrington	8,420	8,470	8,770	8,050	8,060	8,370	370	410	400	4.4	4.9	4.6
Greenfield	26,100	26,450	26,430	24,930	25,050	25,110	1,170	1,400	1,320	4.5	5.3	5.0
Marlboro	53,210	52,710	52,500	51,430	50,760	50,490	1,780	1,950	2,010	3.3	3.7	3.8
Milford	20,180	20,420	20,190	19,340	19,430	19,230	840	990	960	4.2	4.8	4.7
Nantucket	2,970	2,570	3,190	2,850	2,400	3,030	120	170	160	4.2	6.5	4.9
Newburyport	17,610	17,640	16,690	16,510	16,420	15,640	1,100	1,220	1,050	6.3	6.9	6.3
Pittsfield	65,360	66,890	64,800	61,530	62,480	60,890	3,830	4,410	3,910	5.9	6.6	6.0
Plymouth	35,520	35,360	34,940	32,650	32,320	32,340	2,870	3,040	2,600	8.1	8.6	7.4
Southbridge	16,650	16,900	15,670	15,980	16,120	15,030	670	780	640	4.0	4.6	4.1
Taunton	25,840	26,390	25,310	24,430	24,660	23,760	1,410	1,730	1,550	5.5	6.6	6.1
Ware	6,800	6,980	6,530	6,470	6,570	6,150	330	410	380	4.8	5.9	5.8

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

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MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

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July	2,927.1	2,741.3	185.9	6.3	6.3
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September	2,807.3	2,645.4	161.7	5.8	5.7
October	2,797.8	2,677.5	120.3	4.3	5.4
November	2,835.6	2,687.5	148.1	5.2	5.5
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March	2,913.8	2,719.7	194.1	6.7	6.1
April	2,883.0	2,730.7	152.3	5.5	5.8
May	2,855.6	2,712.9	142.7	5.2	5.8
June					
July					
August					

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 7 **No.** 7 **Data for** JULY 1979

JULY HIGHLIGHTS

Massachusetts' unemployment rate has been remarkably stable over the last few months. At 5.0 percent, our rate for July is the same as that for May, and virtually the same as the 5.1 recorded last month. Comparing the Bay State with the nation (which for July had unemployment of 5.8 percent), this month is the first mid-summer month in which this state had a rate lower than national unemployment rate since 1971. In fact, this last third of this year, April to July 1979, are the only four consecutive months that the Commonwealth's unemployment rate has been below the national rate since the summer of 1970. Although the unemployment situation is virtually certain to worsen as the national economy slows down, at present Massachusetts is as comparatively well placed as she could reasonably expect to be at the start of a nationwide recession.

Unfortunately, inflation is worsening, just as it did during the 1975 recession. Now, as then, a major cause has been a rapid increase in the cost of petroleum products. Here in the Commonwealth, our cost of living during the last few years has not risen quite as fast as it has nationally. This could change this winter due to our greater than national need for oil to heat our homes and businesses. Number two oil is our major residential heating agent, as it is throughout much of the Northeast. Therefore, the latest price increases will take proportionally more of our disposable income than elsewhere.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment decreased 19,200 from June to July. Perhaps as much as two-thirds of this decrease is seasonal, due to certain industrial firms releasing employees for unpaid summer vacations. This is a yearly occurrence, and most of these workers should be back on the job in August. The major industries effected are furniture, textiles, apparel, and leather.

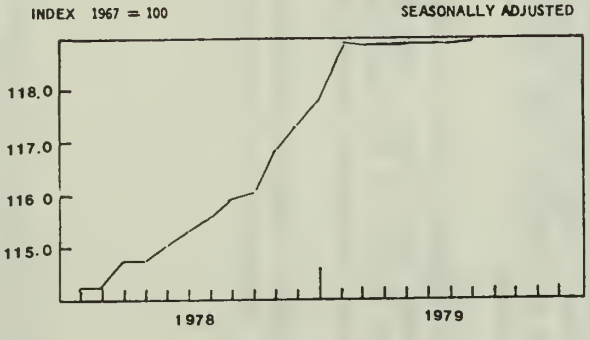
Initial claims in July, 1979 are a little over 2,000 greater than in the comparable month in 1978. Weeks claimed are fewer this July than last year. Job openings received by the Job Service in July are about the same level as the previous July. To date, Massachusetts employment indicators continue to remain favorable.

Annual Planning Reports for the State and for the eight largest labor areas are available from the Labor Area Research Department. Requests for these publications can be made by mail, or by calling 727-6530.

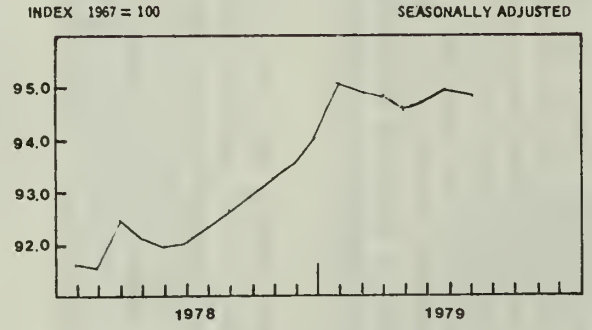
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

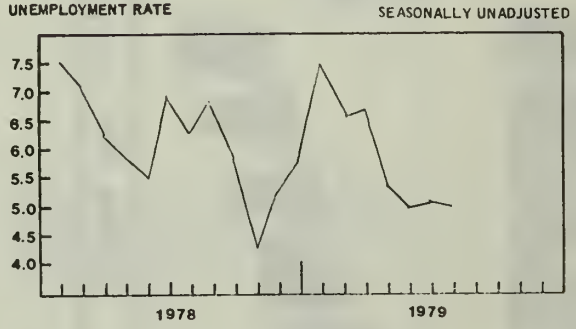
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



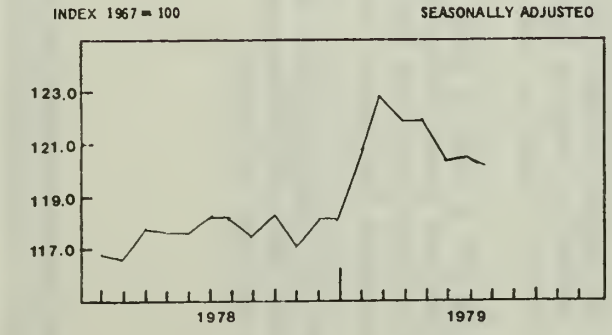
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



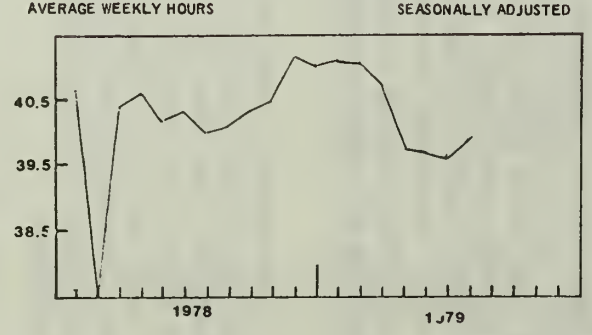
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



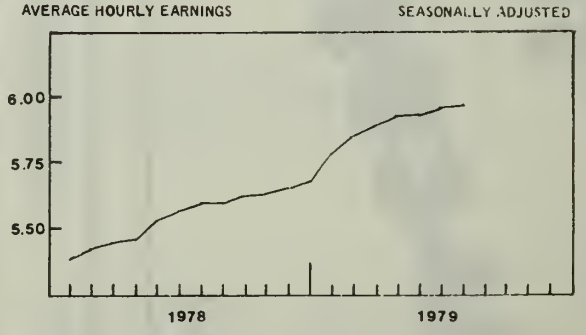
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	July 1979		June 1979		July 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,730.9	97,210.0	2,737.7	96,754.0	2,672.2	94,446.0
The Unemployment Rate *	5.0	5.8	5.1	6.0	6.3	6.3
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,573.1	88,753.0	2,570.5	88,709.0	2,499.4	86,033.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	662.9	20,836.0	663.5	20,898.0	646.2	20,302.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.0	40.2	39.4	40.1	39.9	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$5.99	$6.71	$5.98	$6.66	$5.55	$6.17

ø in 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	July 1979	June 1979	July 1978	July 1979	June 1979	July 1978	July 1979	June 1979	July 1978	July 1979	June 1979	July 1978
Massachusetts	2,948,300	2,947,400	2,927,100	2,802,100	2,797,100	2,741,300	146,200	150,300	185,900	5.0	5.1	6.3
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,401,600	1,413,800	1,411,600	1,335,100	1,343,200	1,314,200	66,500	70,600	97,400	4.7	5.0	6.9
Brockton SMSA	80,800	83,300	82,300	76,200	78,300	76,800	4,600	5,000	5,500	5.7	6.0	6.7
Fall River LMA	81,200	83,000	82,000	76,100	78,300	76,400	5,100	4,700	5,600	6.3	5.7	6.9
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	144,900	142,500	143,300	135,700	134,100	133,400	9,200	8,400	9,900	6.3	5.9	6.9
Lowell LMA	122,400	123,800	115,100	116,100	117,200	107,000	6,300	6,600	8,100	5.1	5.3	7.1
New Bedford LMA	87,600	87,300	85,000	81,700	82,300	77,400	5,900	5,000	7,600	6.7	5.8	9.0
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	289,900	289,500	280,700	278,300	277,000	265,100	11,600	12,500	15,600	4.0	4.3	5.6
Worcester LMA	204,700	205,100	199,300	196,000	196,600	188,900	8,700	8,500	10,400	4.2	4.2	5.2
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,790	11,620	12,440	11,180	11,100	11,740	610	520	700	5.2	4.5	5.6
Barnstable County	77,700	70,370	78,040	74,100	66,520	73,390	3,600	3,850	4,650	4.6	5.5	6.0
Clinton	9,580	9,290	9,360	8,990	8,780	8,500	590	510	860	6.2	5.5	9.2
Dukes County	6,600	4,940	6,190	6,410	4,750	5,950	190	190	240	2.9	3.9	3.8
Fitchburg-Leominster	48,840	48,430	48,880	46,310	45,880	45,960	2,530	2,550	2,920	5.2	5.3	6.0
Gardner	21,360	20,670	20,690	20,040	19,630	19,220	1,260	1,040	1,470	5.9	5.0	7.1
Gloucester	26,120	26,150	26,240	24,510	24,090	24,020	1,610	2,060	2,220	6.2	7.9	8.5
Great Barrington	8,980	8,800	9,470	8,660	8,440	9,010	320	360	460	3.6	4.1	4.9
Greenfield	26,830	26,730	27,450	25,690	25,450	25,960	1,140	1,280	1,490	4.2	4.8	5.4
Marlboro	54,830	54,870	54,200	53,000	52,420	51,710	1,830	2,450	2,490	3.3	4.5	4.6
Milford	20,580	20,670	21,190	19,650	19,700	19,950	930	970	1,240	4.5	4.7	5.9
Nantucket	5,010	4,130	5,320	4,930	4,010	5,180	80	120	140	1.6	2.8	2.6
Newburyport	18,100	18,160	17,800	16,930	16,930	16,320	1,170	1,230	1,480	6.5	6.8	8.3
Pittsfield	67,950	66,750	67,480	64,310	63,030	62,620	3,640	3,720	4,860	5.4	5.6	7.2
Plymouth	37,120	36,460	36,870	34,290	33,530	33,710	2,830	2,930	3,160	7.6	8.0	8.6
Southbridge	17,257	16,930	16,330	16,377	16,200	15,510	880	730	820	5.1	4.3	5.0
Taunton	29,250	26,530	25,990	27,460	25,080	23,970	1,790	1,450	2,020	6.1	5.5	7.8
Ware	6,690	7,080	6,940	6,340	6,700	6,460	350	380	480	5.2	5.3	6.9

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Ra Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,777.0	2,552.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
1978	2,836.0	2,663.0	173.0	6.1	6.0
May	2,800.4	2,648.7	151.7	5.4	5.5
June	2,933.4	2,730.4	203.0	6.9	6.2
July	2,927.1	2,741.3	185.9	6.3	6.3
August	2,898.3	2,703.6	194.7	6.7	5.8
September	2,807.3	2,645.4	161.7	5.8	5.7
October	2,797.8	2,677.5	120.3	4.3	5.4
November	2,835.6	2,687.5	148.1	5.2	5.5
December	2,842.0	2,679.5	162.5	5.7	5.6
1979					
January	2,904.6	2,685.4	219.2	7.5	6.4
February	2,918.0	2,725.0	193.0	6.6	6.4
March	2,913.8	2,719.7	194.1	6.7	6.1
April	2,883.0	2,730.7	152.3	5.3	5.8
May	2,855.6	2,712.9	142.7	5.0	5.8
June	2,947.4	2,797.1	150.3	5.1	6.0
July	2,948.3	2,802.1	146.2	5.0	5.8
August					

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 7 **No.** 8 **Data for** AUGUST 1979

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AUGUST HIGHLIGHTS

Total residential employment in the Bay State remained surprisingly constant during the summer. In most years, employment increases sharply from June to July, and conversely will decrease in August to at or below the June level. The past summer followed this basic pattern. What is unusual is that employment only increased 5,000 from June to July, and decreased only 3,600 from July to August. This is the smallest July-to-August employment decline since 1973, when employment remained unchanged. Unemployment, at 137,600, was 8,600 less than in July. From 1976 to 1978 the number of unemployed had increased each August. This year's decline appears to be related to a drop in youth unemployment.

The Massachusetts unemployment rate for August was 4.7 percent, which was the lowest rate so far this year, and the second lowest rate recorded since August of 1970. August of 1979 was also the fifth straight month that the Commonwealth's unemployment rate has been below the national level, something unprecedented during this decade.

The labor force in August totaled 2,936,100. This was down from the July figure, but the decline was due to seasonal factors and was expected. There are now 1.3 percent more people in the labor force than a year ago; a combination of a 3.5 percent increase in employment and a 29.3 percent drop in the number of unemployed.

At 64,677, continued weeks claimed are 9 percent lower than last year. Unfortunately, the 7,003 initial claims filed in August were 13.2 percent above the number recorded twelve months earlier.

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment was 2,581,000 in August, an increase of only 8,700 since July. This is perhaps an indication that employment is starting to level off. The majority of the gain (7,400 jobs) was in the nondurable goods manufacturing sector, and was mostly due to employees returning from unpaid summer vacations. Nondurable goods employment has dropped slightly since last year with the largest percentage declines occurring in apparel and leather footwear. Both printing and publishing, and chemicals showed monthly and yearly employment gains.

Durable goods manufacturing employment was virtually the same in August as in July. There would have been a small increase were it not for a temporary shutdown in the transportation equipment industry. Despite the shutdown employment was 2.4 percent higher than a year ago. The greatest gains were in electronic components, non-electrical machinery, and fabricated metals other than cutlery.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	Aug. 1979	July 1979	Aug. 1978	Aug. 1979	July 1979	Aug. 1978	Aug. 1979	July 1979	Aug. 1978	Aug. 1979	July 1979	Aug. 1978
Massachusetts	2,936,100	2,948,300	2,898,300	2,798,500	2,802,100	2,703,600	137,600	146,200	194,700	4.7	5.0	6.7
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,392,100	1,401,600	1,391,400	1,327,600	1,335,100	1,298,400	64,500	66,500	93,000	4.6	4.7	6.7
Brockton SMSA	81,700	80,800	81,800	77,300	76,200	76,000	4,400	4,600	5,800	5.3	5.7	7.1
Fall River LMA	81,000	81,200R	82,800	77,000	76,100	77,500	4,000	5,100	5,300	4.9	6.3	6.4
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	141,000	141,800	142,300	133,200	132,600	131,800	7,800	9,200	10,500	5.6	6.5	7.3
Lowell LMA	123,700	122,400	114,900	117,600	116,100	106,200	6,100	6,300	8,700	4.9	5.1	7.6
New Bedford LMA	86,800	87,600	83,900	82,000	81,700	76,600	4,800	5,900	7,300	5.6	6.7	8.7
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	291,400	289,900	276,700	279,700	278,300	260,000	11,700	11,600	16,700	4.0	4.0	6.0
Worcester LMA	205,400	204,700	197,100	197,000	196,000	186,300	8,400	8,700	10,800	4.1	4.2	5.5
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,660	11,790	12,280	11,160	11,180	11,580	500	610	700	4.3	5.2	5.7
Barnstable County	78,080	77,700	77,150	74,610	74,100	72,210	3,470	3,600	4,940	4.4	4.6	6.4
Clinton	9,480	9,580	9,160	9,020	8,990	8,440	460	590	720	4.8	6.2	7.9
Dukes County	6,780	6,600	6,380	6,600	6,410	6,170	180	190	210	2.7	2.9	3.2
Fitchburg-Leominster	48,830	48,840	48,190	46,390	46,310	45,110	2,440	2,530	3,080	5.0	5.2	6.4
Gardner	20,930	21,360	20,310	19,910	20,040	18,960	1,020	1,260	1,350	4.9	5.9	6.6
Gloucester	26,860	26,120	26,200	25,410	24,510	24,100	1,450	1,610	2,100	5.4	6.2	8.0
Great Barrington	9,190	8,980	9,470	8,870	8,660	8,960	320	320	510	3.4	3.6	5.4
Greenfield	26,700	26,830	27,090	25,650	25,690	25,410	1,050	1,140	1,680	3.9	4.2	6.2
Marlboro	55,240	54,830	52,510	53,330	53,000	50,060	1,910	1,830	2,450	3.5	3.3	4.7
Milford	20,740	20,580	20,920	19,790	19,650	19,560	950	930	1,360	4.6	4.5	6.5
Nantucket	5,110	5,010	5,180	4,980	4,930	5,060	130	80	120	2.5	1.7	2.2
Newburyport	17,920	18,100	17,640	16,880	16,930	16,120	1,040	1,170	1,520	5.8	6.5	8.6
Pittsfield	67,900	67,950	66,440	64,580	64,310	61,450	3,320	3,640	4,990	4.9	5.4	7.5
Plymouth	37,100	37,120	36,930	34,630	34,290	33,280	2,470	2,830	3,650	6.7	7.6	9.9
Southbridge	17,040	17,260	16,080	16,350	16,380	15,260	690	880	820	4.1	5.1	5.1
Taunton	25,280	29,250	26,070	23,860	27,460	24,070	1,420	1,790	2,000	5.6	6.1	7.7
Ware	6,660	6,690	6,950	6,340	6,340	6,450	320	350	500	4.8	5.2	7.3

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

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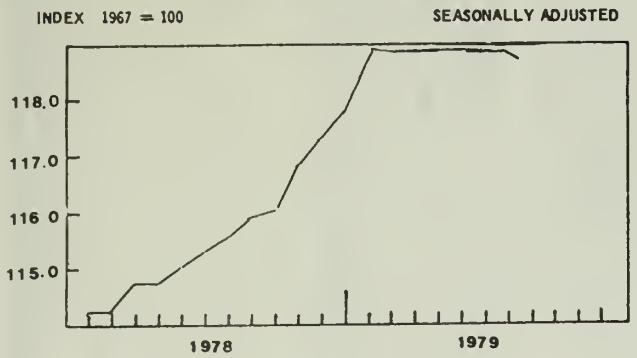
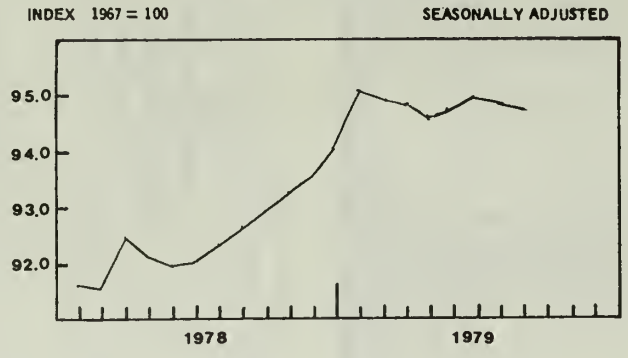
Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

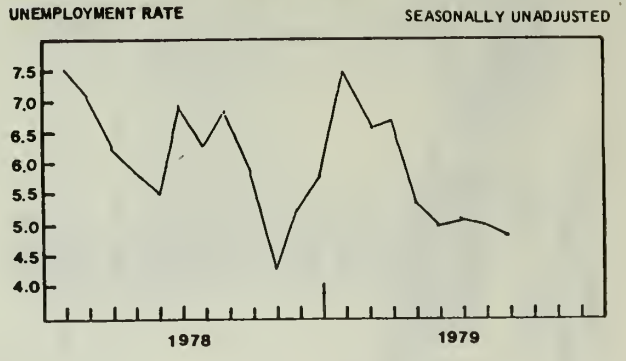
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



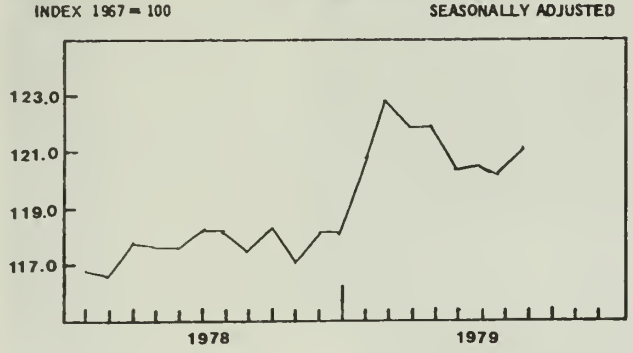
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



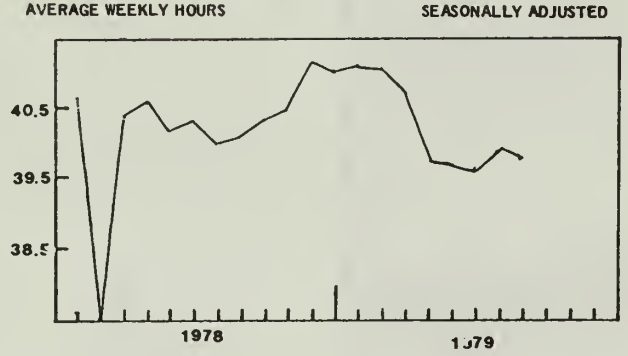
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



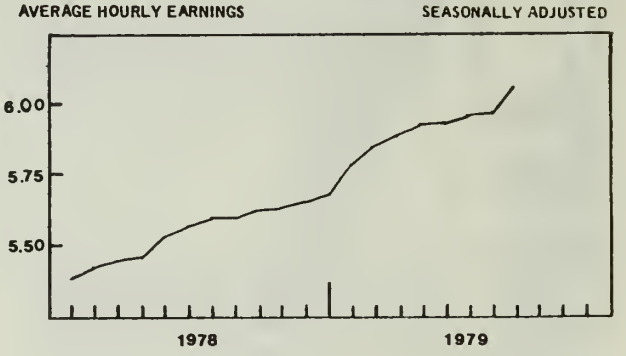
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	August 1979		July 1979		August 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,751.6	96,900.0	2,730.9	97,210.0	2,658.7	94,723.0
The Unemployment Rate *	4.7	5.9	5.0	5.8	6.7	5.8
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,564.0	88,815.0	2,566.8	88,813.0	2,505.2	86,149.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	661.1	20,740.0	664.0	20,863.0	648.1	20,279.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.6	40.0	40.0	40.2	40.1	40.3
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$6.10	$6.68	$6.01	$6.71	$5.58	$6.16

ø in 000's

1/ Production Workers Only

* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
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1978	2,836.0	2,663.0	173.0	6.1	6.0
May	2,800.4	2,648.7	151.7	5.4	5.5
June	2,933.4	2,730.4	203.0	6.9	6.2
July	2,927.1	2,741.3	185.9	6.3	6.3
August	2,898.3	2,703.6	194.7	6.7	5.8
September	2,807.3	2,645.4	161.7	5.8	5.7
October	2,797.8	2,677.5	120.3	4.3	5.4
November	2,835.6	2,687.5	148.1	5.2	5.5
December	2,842.0	2,679.5	162.5	5.7	5.6
1979					
January	2,904.6	2,685.4	219.2	7.5	6.4
February	2,918.0	2,725.0	193.0	6.6	6.4
March	2,913.8	2,719.7	194.1	6.7	6.1
April	2,883.0	2,730.7	152.3	5.3	5.8
May	2,855.6	2,712.9	142.7	5.0	5.8
June	2,947.4	2,797.1	150.3	5.1	6.0
July	2,948.3	2,802.1	146.2	5.0	5.8
August	2,936.1	2,798.5	137.6	4.7	5.9

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 7 **No.** 9 **Data for** SEPTEMBER 1979

SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

In January 1978 the Commonwealth began receiving labor force data monthly from the Current Population Survey (CPS). From this survey done by the Census Bureau, employment and unemployment statistics are provided on a monthly basis for the nation as a whole, for the New York City and Los Angeles areas, and for the ten largest states - of which Massachusetts is one. This new methodology replaced the 70 Step Handbook method used previously to estimate Massachusetts' unemployment rate. At the time of the adoption of this new methodology, it was pointed out that due to the CPS sample size, among other factors, that there could be large month-to-month variations in the statistics. Therefore, data for any individual month should not be considered as an absolute reflection of the current labor market.

The increase in the unemployment rate from August's 4.7 percent to September's 6.4 percent should be interpreted within the analytic constraints of sampling error. The large August/September jump in the rate is most unusual, and should be considered statistically atypical. The 5.4 percent unemployment rate for the third quarter of 1979 is a more reliable reflection of the actual employment situation. For the third quarter of 1978 the rate was 6.3 percent. During the six monyhs since April 1979, the unemployed have averaged 5.2 percent of the labor force, a full percentage point lower than during the same period last year.

Other employment/unemployment indicators remain favorable. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the Bay State increased by over 15,000 in September. From August to September 1978 it had declined slightly. The number of continued weeks of benefits claimed during September's survey week were down over 10,000 from the previous month. Also, there were over 300 fewer initial claims filed in September than in August. New incorporations in September 1979 surpassed those in September 1978 by 63.

Because of firms production schedules, and the end of summer vacations, it it normal for manufacturing production workers to work somewhat longer hours in September than during the summer. This month has been no exception, although the average number of hours worked is down from last year. The average hourly earnings of production workers are 10.3 percent higher than in September 1978. However, because fewer hours were worked average weekly earnings rose by only 8.7 percent.

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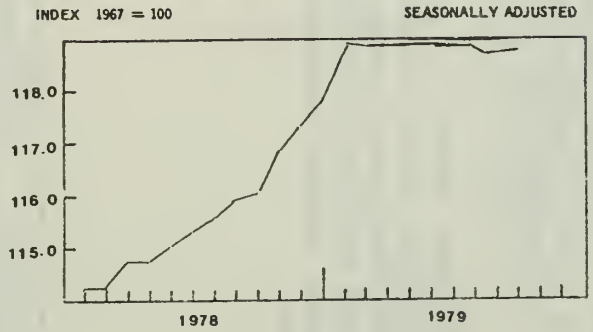
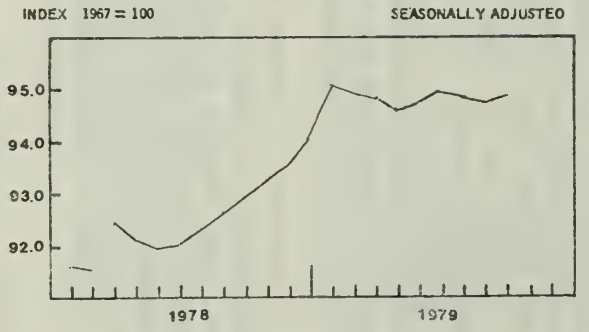
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John E. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

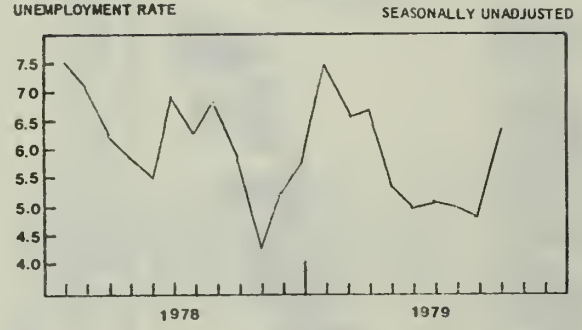
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



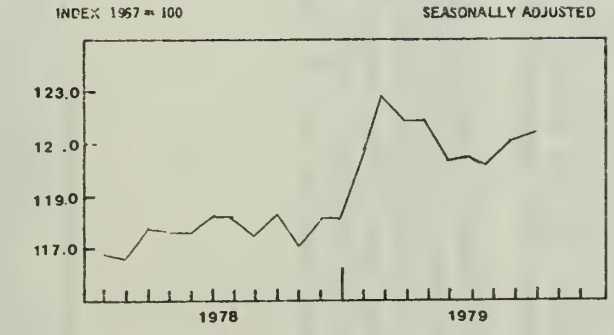
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



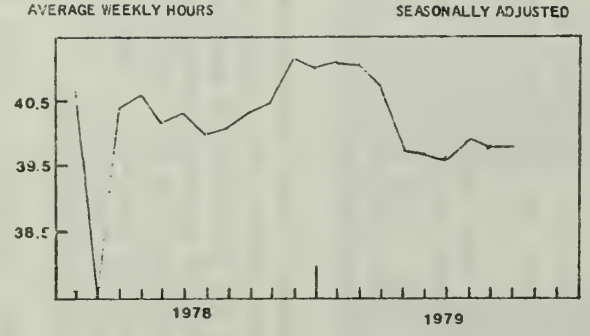
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



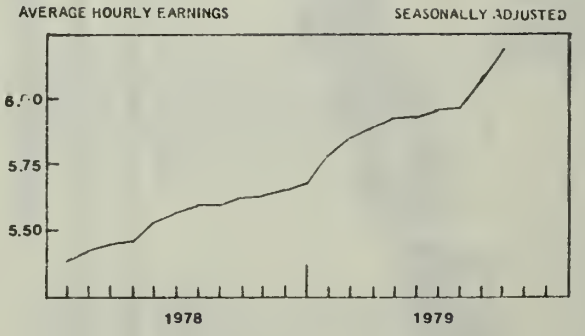
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	September 1979		August 1979		September 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,757.1	97,513.0	2,751.6	96,900.0	2,676.7	95,010.0
The Unemployment Rate *	6.4	5.6	4.7	5.9	5.8	5.7
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,572.8	89,853.0	2,564.4	89,718.0	2,507.6	87,032.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	662.4	20,936.0	661.5	20,962.0	650.1	20,511.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	39.6	40.0	39.6	40.1	40.2	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$6.19	$6.79	$6.10	$6.69	$5.69	$6.28

Ø in 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978	Sept. 1979	Aug. 1979	Sept. 1978
Massachusetts	2,911,600	2,936,100	2,807,300	2,724,600	2,798,500	2,645,400	187,000	137,600	161,700	6.4	4.7	5.8
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,386,500	1,392,100	1,342,900	1,296,900	1,327,600	1,266,000	89,600	64,500	76,900	6.5	4.6	5.7
Brockton SMSA	81,400	81,700	79,700	7,500	77,300	74,800	5,900	4,400	4,900	7.2	5.3	6.2
Fall River LMA	80,000	81,000	79,800	74,200	77,000	75,000	5,800	4,000	4,800	7.3	4.9	6.0
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	140,400	141,200	137,500	129,900	133,200	128,700	10,500	7,800	8,800	7.5	5.6	6.4
Lowell LMA	122,800	123,700	111,600	114,700	117,600	104,500	8,100	6,100	7,100	6.6	4.9	6.3
New Bedford LMA	87,500	86,800	80,800	80,200	82,000	74,700	7,300	4,800	6,100	8.4	5.6	7.6
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	283,300	291,400	271,200	270,600	279,700	257,900	12,700	11,700	13,300	4.5	4.0	4.9
Worcester LMA	203,100	205,400	191,100	192,400	197,000	182,400	10,700	8,400	8,700	5.3	4.1	4.5
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,710	11,660	11,750	11,040	11,160	11,220	670	500	530	5.7	4.3	4.5
Barnstable County	76,340	78,080	79,660	71,320	74,610	75,260	5,020	3,470	4,400	6.6	4.4	5.5
Clinton	9,420	9,480	8,830	8,800	9,020	8,220	620	460	610	6.6	4.8	6.9
Dukes County	6,320	6,780	5,370	6,040	6,600	5,150	280	180	220	4.5	2.7	4.1
Fitchburg-Leominster	48,110	48,830	46,220	45,000	46,390	43,730	3,110	2,440	2,490	6.5	5.0	5.4
Gardner	20,770	20,930	19,480	19,450	19,910	18,470	1,320	1,020	1,010	6.4	4.9	5.2
Gloucester	26,150	26,860	25,090	24,000	25,410	23,200	2,150	1,450	1,890	8.2	5.4	7.5
Great Barrington	8,970	9,190	9,300	8,550	8,870	8,880	420	320	420	4.7	3.5	4.5
Greenfield	25,920	26,700	26,010	24,540	25,650	24,780	1,380	1,050	1,230	5.3	3.9	4.7
Marlboro	54,500	55,240	51,480	52,000	53,330	49,120	2,500	1,910	2,360	4.6	3.4	4.6
Milford	20,530	20,740	20,110	19,400	19,790	19,070	1,180	950	1,040	5.8	4.6	5.2
Nantucket	4,590	5,110	4,480	4,470	4,980	4,320	120	130	160	2.7	2.5	3.5
Newburyport	17,640	17,920	16,950	16,230	16,880	15,660	1,410	1,040	1,290	8.0	5.8	7.6
Pittsfield	66,280	67,900	64,250	61,780	64,580	60,060	4,500	3,320	4,190	6.8	4.9	6.5
Plymouth	36,200	37,100	35,820	33,000	34,630	32,540	3,200	2,470	3,280	8.8	6.7	9.1
Southbridge	16,720	17,040	15,590	15,800	16,350	14,900	920	690	690	5.5	4.1	4.4
Taunton	25,890	25,280	24,480	24,140	23,860	22,820	1,750	1,420	1,660	6.8	5.6	6.8
Ware	6,520	6,660	6,600	6,110	6,340	6,250	410	320	350	6.3	4.8	5.3

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Ra	
				Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,777.0	2,552.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
1978	2,836.0	2,663.0	173.0	6.1	6.0
September	2,807.3	2,645.4	161.7	5.8	5.7
October	2,797.8	2,677.5	120.3	4.3	5.4
November	2,835.6	2,687.5	148.1	5.2	5.5
December	2,842.0	2,679.5	162.5	5.7	5.6
1979					
January	2,904.6	2,685.4	219.2	7.5	6.4
February	2,918.0	2,725.0	193.0	6.6	6.4
March	2,913.8	2,719.7	194.1	6.7	6.1
April	2,883.0	2,730.7	152.3	5.3	5.8
May	2,855.6	2,712.9	142.7	5.0	5.8
June	2,947.4	2,797.1	150.3	5.1	6.0
July	2,948.3	2,802.1	146.2	5.0	5.8
August	2,936.1	2,798.5	137.6	4.7	5.9
September	2,911.6	2,724.6	187.0	6.4	5.6
October					
November					
December					

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

Vol. 7 No. 10 Data for OCTOBER 1979

OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS

The big news on the economic front in October was the actions by the Federal Reserve to tighten credit. Virtually at once, most major banks raised their prime rates to the 15 percent range. It would appear that interest rates have already peaked, and perhaps may go down somewhat. However, until the Federal Reserve changes its current policies, interest rates will remain unusually high. Automobiles, housing and other high price consumer durables which are usually purchased through installment payments, personal loans, or mortgages are likely to experience very sluggish sales over the next several months. Sales will only rebound when more credit is available, or if prices are sharply cut - neither of which is imminent. In addition, banks are reducing solicitation of credit card applications and a few major gasoline companies are no longer accepting credit cards. For October, retail sales fell 1.7 percent nationally which is the greatest monthly decline in over four years.

The effect of the Federal Reserve's actions on the housing market will be harsh. The president of the National Association of Homebuilders believes that housing starts may plunge more than 40 percent by early 1980, to an annual rate of fewer than one million new units. Here in Massachusetts we will not be as severely impacted as the nation as a whole. Free-market interest rates are currently at 13-14 percent. In over twenty states, usury ceilings limit the rate on home mortgages to 12 percent or less - in these states the supply of mortgage money will virtually dry up. In the Bay State some mortgage money should continue to be available, although it will be very expensive and higher down payments will probably be required. Also, our home construction sector was already in the doldrums, so a decrease in activity and employment will be relatively less damaging in the Commonwealth than nationally.

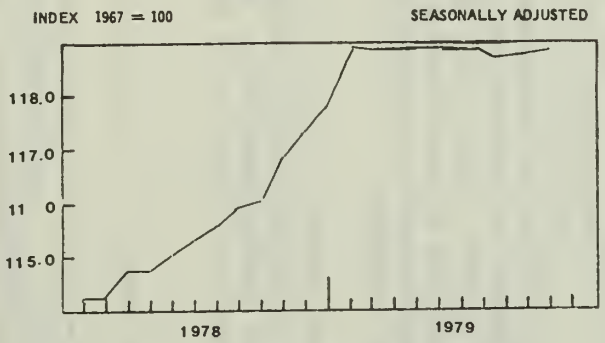
The unemployment rate dropped two percentage points in October. Last month we mentioned that we felt that the 6.4 percent rate recorded for September was statistically atypical. October's rate of 4.4 percent is much more in line with August's rate of 4.7 and July's of 5.0. Among the ten large industrial states, only Texas had a lower unemployment rate than Massachusetts in October. Since April, the Commonwealth's unemployment rate has been lower than the national rate every month except September.

The number of Job Bank openings decreased from 22,041 last month to 21,355 in October. Fewer openings were reported in professional, clerical, sales and service occupations, while more jobs were available in the processing, machine trades, bench work, and structural work sectors. Some 12,472 of the openings were still unfilled at the end of the month.

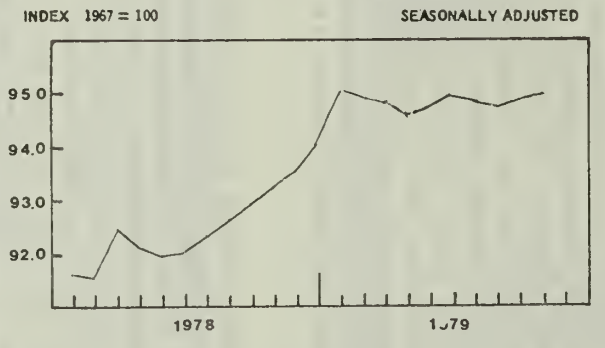
The Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth indicated that there were 986 new incorporations, an increase of 136 over October, 1978.

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

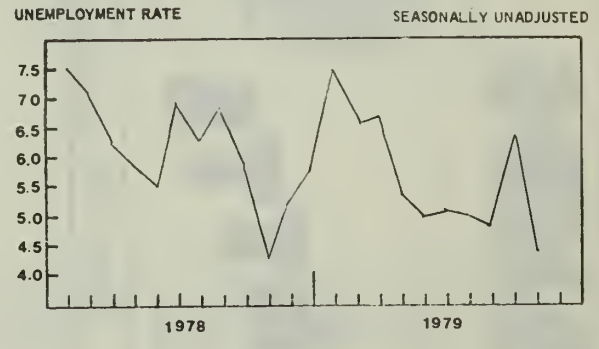
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



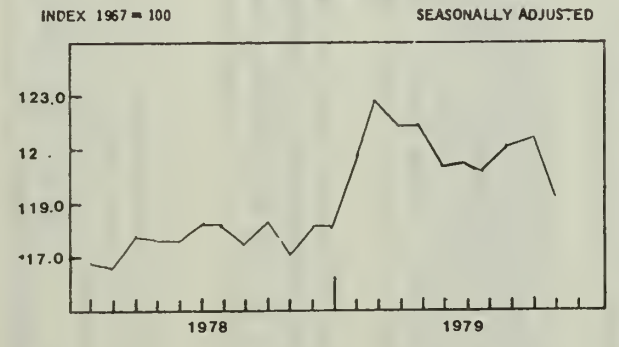
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



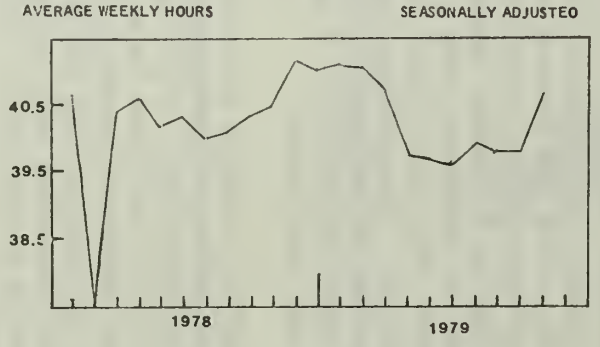
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



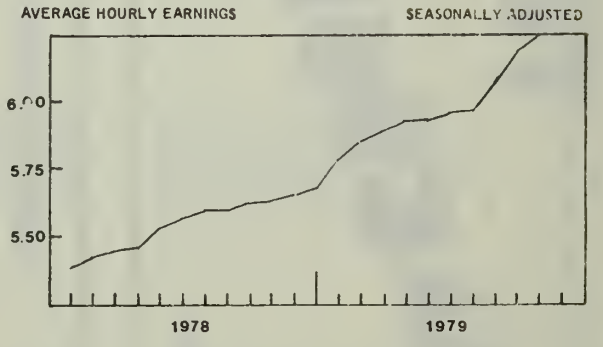
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	OCTOBER 1979		SEPTEMBER 1979		OCTOBER 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,703.6	97,293.0	2,757.1	97,513.0	2,654.3	95,241.0
The Unemployment Rate *	4.4	5.6	6.4	5.6	4.3	5.4
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,576.6	90,151.0	2,573.4	89,845.0	2,524.2	87,424.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	664.4	20,958.0	662.1	20,954.0	653.1	20,633.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.6	40.1	39.6	40.1	40.4	40.5
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$6.26	$6.83	$6.19	$6.80	$5.64	$6.33

ø in 000's
1/ Production Workers Only
* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	Oct. 1979	Sept. 1979	Oct. 1978	Oct. 1979	Sept. 1979	Oct. 1978	Oct. 1979	Sept. 1979	Oct. 1978	Oct. 1979	Sept. 1979	Oct. 1978
Massachusetts	2,851,200	2,911,600	2,797,800	2,727,200	2,724,600	2,677,500	124,000	187,000	120,300	4.4	6.4	4.3
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,364,500	1,386,500	1,348,900	1,307,100	1,296,900	1,292,000	57,400	89,600	56,900	4.2	6.5	4.2
Brockton SMSA	79,500	81,400	81,100	75,700	75,500	77,500	3,800	5,900	3,600	4.8	7.2	4.4
Fall River LMA	78,300	80,000	78,300	74,300	74,200	74,400	4,000	5,800	3,900	5.1	7.3	5.0
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	137,300	140,400	134,200	129,500	129,900	127,200	7,800	10,500	7,000	5.7	7.5	5.2
Lowell LMA	120,700	122,800	110,500	115,100	114,700	105,300	5,600	8,100	5,200	4.6	6.6	4.7
New Bedford LMA	83,900	87,500	80,700	78,900	80,200	76,100	5,000	7,300	4,600	6.0	8.4	5.7
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	282,500	283,300	270,500	272,400	270,600	260,700	10,100	12,700	9,800	3.6	4.5	3.6
Worcester LMA	200,100	203,100	194,200	192,900	192,400	187,800	7,200	10,700	6,400	3.6	5.3	3.3
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,110	11,710	11,880	10,680	11,040	11,450	430	670	430	3.9	5.7	3.6
Barnstable County	70,670	76,340	72,170	66,970	71,320	68,220	3,700	5,020	3,950	5.2	6.6	5.5
Clinton	9,030	9,420	8,760	8,640	8,800	8,350	390	620	410	4.3	6.6	4.7
Dukes County	5,570	6,320	4,190	5,250	6,040	3,960	320	280	230	5.7	4.5	5.4
Fitchburg-Leominster	46,580	48,110	46,130	44,550	45,000	44,300	2,030	3,110	1,830	4.4	6.5	4.0
Gardner	20,350	20,770	19,580	19,500	19,450	18,800	850	1,320	780	4.2	6.4	4.0
Gloucester	24,320	26,150	23,820	22,770	24,000	22,330	1,550	2,150	1,490	6.4	8.2	6.2
Great Barrington	8,230	8,970	9,000	7,950	8,550	8,690	280	420	310	3.4	4.7	3.5
Greenfield	25,010	25,920	26,030	24,100	24,540	25,050	910	1,380	980	3.6	5.3	3.8
Marlboro	56,590	54,500	51,440	54,920	52,000	49,920	1,670	2,500	1,520	2.9	4.6	2.9
Milford	19,300	20,580	20,040	18,540	19,400	19,300	760	1,180	740	3.9	5.8	3.7
Nantucket	3,670	4,590	3,340	3,520	4,470	3,220	150	120	120	4.0	2.7	3.5
Newburyport	17,500	17,640	16,590	16,390	16,230	15,620	1,110	1,410	970	6.3	8.0	5.9
Pittsfield	64,590	66,280	63,630	61,810	61,780	60,440	2,780	4,500	3,190	4.3	6.8	5.0
Plymouth	34,790	36,200	34,910	32,620	33,000	32,790	2,170	3,200	2,120	6.2	8.8	6.1
Southbridge	16,090	16,720	15,770	15,530	15,800	15,130	560	920	640	3.5	5.5	4.1
Taunton	25,320	25,890	23,850	24,140	24,140	22,740	1,180	1,750	1,110	4.6	6.8	4.7
Ware	6,375	6,520	6,670	6,084	6,110	6,410	291	410	260	4.6	6.3	3.9

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

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(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

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July	2,948.3	2,802.1	146.2	5.0	5.8
August	2,936.1	2,798.5	137.6	4.7	5.9
September	2,911.6	2,724.6	187.0	6.4	5.6
October	2,851.2	2,727.2	124.0	4.4	5.6
November					
December					

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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MASSACHUSETTS TRENDS

Labor Force
Employment
Unemployment

APR 14 1980

Vol. 8 No. 11 **Data for** NOVEMBER 1979

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

The Massachusetts unemployment rate rose slightly during the month and now stands at 4.8 percent. In each of the last four years the unemployment rate has increased from October to November, and this year's increase of four tenths of a percentage point is comparatively moderate. The national unadjusted unemployment rate, which is directly comparable to ours, remained unchanged at 5.6, while the seasonally adjusted national rate declined to 5.8 percent. In November, Massachusetts still had the second lowest level of unemployment among the ten large industrial states.

Nonmanufacturing industries show the greatest employment gains since last November. Construction, for example, has 6.6 percent more workers than a year ago; however, the full effect of last month's action by the Federal Reserve has yet to be felt. The largest numerical increase was in services, which has grown 27,000 jobs, or 4.7 percent, during the past twelve months. Only transportation and public utilities employment is lower than last year. Manufacturing employment is up less than one percent since November 1978. Virtually all of the growth is in the durable goods sector, the nondurables which have grown are the printing and chemical industries.

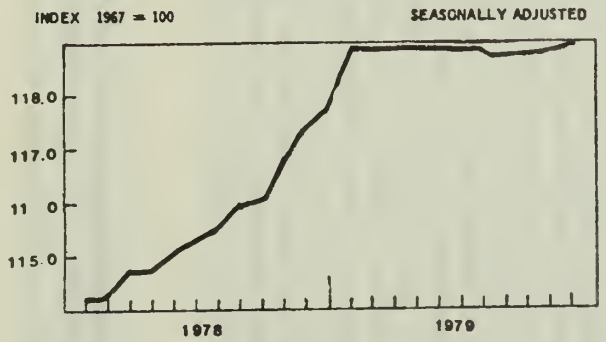
Much of the durable goods sector could be adversely impacted by the rise in the cost of precious and base metals, which, at least in the short-run, will increase direct material costs and therefore the cost of production. (As this article goes to press, the first week of January, the prices of gold and silver are at all time highs, partially due to the hostage situation in Teheran, and the Russian occupation of Afghanistan.) Whether the international situation or speculation is the cause, very high costs for all precious metals, and many base metals, is a reality that will probably continue throughout 1980.

The high price of gold is beginning to increase the manufacturing cost of conductors in computer chips. Silver, because it doesn't oxidize readily and makes good contact, is widely used by the electronics industry, and also in the photographic and equipment supplies industry for the production of film. Since mid-summer, silver's price has risen even faster than gold's. The price of platinum, a metal used in the manufacture of eyeglasses and jet aircraft engines, has risen in the wake of gold and silver. Cobalt which is imported, has been in relatively short supply, and is thus expensive. This will increase costs for voice coil positioners in the disk drive industry, jet engines and turbines in the aircraft industry, and lightweight magnets in the loudspeaker industry. Tin is used for bearings and in the electronics industry, and its cost has risen steadily since 1974-it avoided the recession slump in base metal prices. The price spiral for precious and base metals will increase the cost of some products in the above mentioned industries, many of which are based in Massachusetts. This could lead to decreased demand, and possibly effect employment levels.

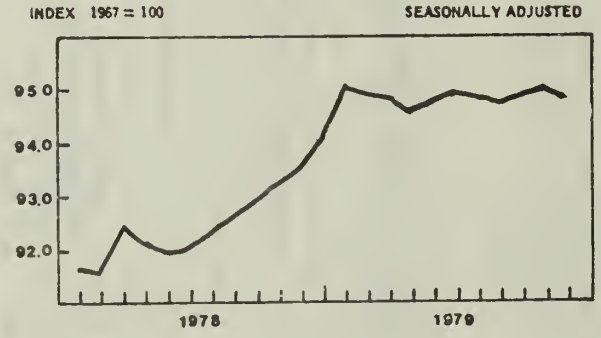
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY John F. Hodgman, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

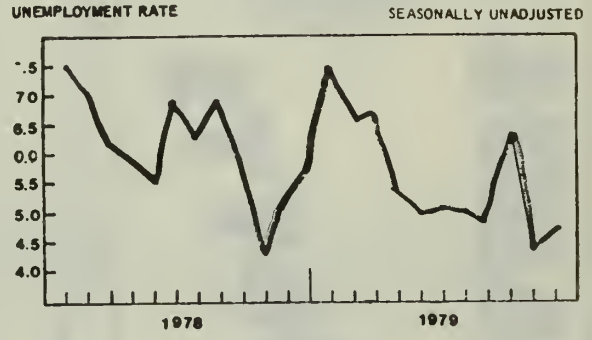
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



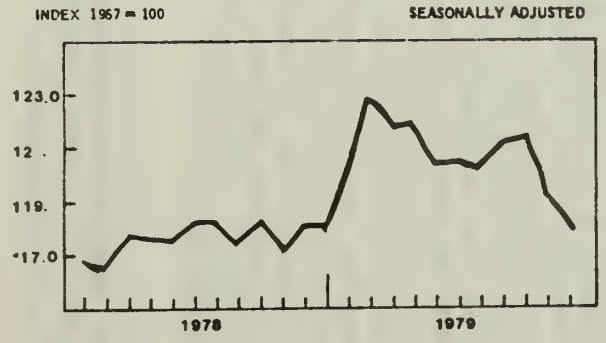
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



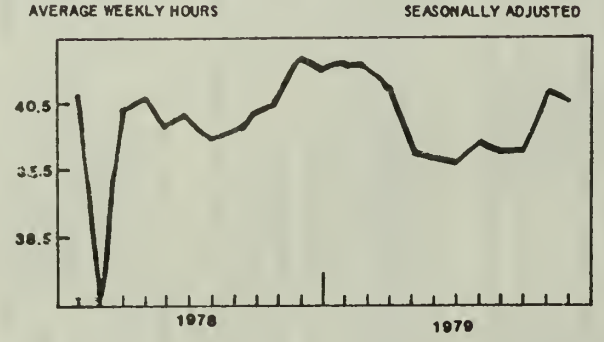
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



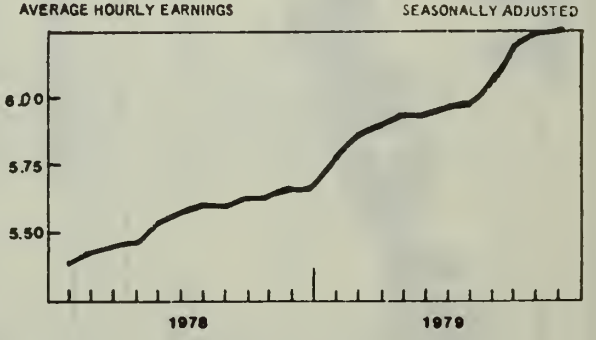
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS



ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	NOVEMBER 1979		OCTOBER 1979		NOVEMBER 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment ø	2,671.6	97,646.0	2,703.6	97,293.0	2,673.4	95,751.0
The Unemployment Rate *	4.8	5.6	4.4	5.6	5.2	5.5
Total Nonagricultural Employment ø	2,594.7	90,185.0	2,576.4	89,967.0	2,535.9	87,840.0
Total Manufacturing Employment ø	663.7	20,887.0	664.2	20,886.0	654.6	20,772.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.5	40.0	40.6	40.2	41.2	40.6
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$6.33	$6.85	$6.26	$6.82	$5.68	$6.38

ø in 000's

1/ Production Workers Only

* Seasonally Unadjusted

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	Nov. 1979	Oct. 1979	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1979	Oct. 1979	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1979	Oct. 1979	Nov. 1978	Nov. 1979	Oct. 1979	Nov. 1978
Massachusetts	2,818.800	2,851.400	2,835,600	2,684,800	2,727,200	2,687,500	134,000	124,200	148,100	4.8	4.4	5.2
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,349,700	1,364,500	1,366,700	1,291,300	1,307,100	1,301,000	58,400	57,400	65,700	4.3	4.2	4.8
Brockton SMSA	80,100	79,500	82,300	75,800	75,700	77,800	4,300	3,800	4,500	5.3	4.8	5.4
Fall River LMA	77,700	78,300	80,800	72,500	74,300	74,700	5,200	4,000	6,100	6.7	5.1	7.6
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	135,100	137,300	139,100	127,400	129,500	130,500	7,700	7,800	8,600	5.7	5.7	6.2
Lowell LMA	119,800	120,700	112,100	113,400	115,100	106,000	6,400	5,600	6,100	5.3	4.6	5.4
New Bedford LMA	83,400	83,900	82,300	77,200	78,900	76,100	6,200	5,000	6,200	7.5	6.0	7.5
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	278,100	282,500	274,000	267,300	272,400	262,000	10,800	10,100	12,000	3.9	3.6	4.4
Worcester LMA	198,100	200,100	197,200	190,000	192,900	188,700	8,100	7,200	8,500	4.1	3.6	4.3
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,050	11,110	12,180	10,600	10,680	11,510	450	430	670	4.1	3.9	5.5
Barnstable County	67,800	70,670	70,620	63,300	66,970	64,930	4,500	3,700	5,690	6.6	5.2	8.1
Clinton	8,980	9,030	9,040	8,510	8,640	8,380	470	390	660	5.2	4.3	7.3
Dukes County	5,090	5,570	3,970	4,610	5,250	3,620	480	320	350	9.4	5.7	8.9
Fitchburg-Leominster	46,110	46,580	46,700	43,860	44,550	44,360	2,250	2,030	2,340	4.9	4.4	5.0
Gardner	20,180	20,350	19,970	19,270	19,500	18,840	910	850	1,130	4.5	4.2	5.7
Gloucester	23,760	24,320	23,510	21,890	22,770	21,440	1,870	1,550	2,070	7.9	6.4	8.8
Great Barrington	8,860	8,230	9,010	8,520	7,950	8,590	340	280	420	3.8	3.4	4.7
Greenfield	24,770	25,010	26,140	23,810	24,100	24,900	960	910	1,240	3.9	3.6	4.8
Marlboro	56,160	56,590	51,820	54,460	54,920	49,970	1,700	1,670	1,850	3.0	2.9	3.6
Milford	19,000	19,300	20,150	18,180	18,540	19,310	820	760	840	4.3	3.9	4.2
Nantucket	2,510	3,670	3,190	2,360	3,520	3,000	150	150	190	5.8	4.0	6.0
Newburyport	17,310	17,500	16,630	16,280	16,390	15,450	1,030	1,110	1,180	6.0	6.3	7.1
Pittsfield	64,060	64,590	64,390	60,630	61,810	60,340	3,430	2,780	4,050	5.4	4.3	6.3
Plymouth	34,300	34,790	35,580	31,860	32,620	32,740	2,440	2,170	2,840	7.1	6.2	8.0
Southbridge	16,190	16,090	16,120	15,210	15,530	15,140	980	560	980	6.1	3.5	6.1
Taunton	25,600	25,320	24,130	24,210	24,140	22,600	1,390	1,180	1,530	5.4	4.6	6.3
Ware	6,370	6,370	6,760	5,960	6,080	6,410	410	290	350	6.4	4.6	5.1

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment. U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,777.0	2,552.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
1978	2,836.0	2,663.0	173.0	6.1	6.0
September	2,807.3	2,645.4	161.7	5.8	5.7
October	2,797.8	2,677.5	120.3	4.3	5.4
November	2,835.6	2,687.5	148.1	5.2	5.5
December	2,842.0	2,679.5	162.5	5.7	5.6
1979					
January	2,904.6	2,685.4	219.2	7.5	6.4
February	2,918.0	2,725.0	193.0	6.6	6.4
March	2,913.8	2,719.7	194.1	6.7	6.1
April	2,883.0	2,730.7	152.3	5.3	5.8
May	2,855.6	2,712.9	142.7	5.0	5.8
June	2,947.4	2,797.1	150.3	5.1	6.0
July	2,948.3	2,802.1	146.2	5.0	5.8
August	2,936.1	2,798.5	137.6	4.7	5.9
September	2,911.6	2,724.6	187.0	6.4	5.6
October	2,851.2	2,727.2	124.0	4.4	5.6
November	2,818.8	2,684.8	134.0	4.8	5.6
December					

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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Vol. 8 No. 12 University of Massachusetts Depository Copy **Data for** DECEMBER 1979

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

1979 was marked by record breaking inflation and by continued growth in employment.

The average level of employment for 1979 was 2,735,000 compared to 1978's annual average of 2,663,000. While employment levels increased, the actual rate of expansion slowed. The nonmanufacturing sector of the economy represented the major increase in employment. Unemployment remained relatively stable through the end of 1979, since its initial decrease from 1978 levels.

Although they did not seem to affect employment levels in Massachusetts, the steadily increasing prices of consumer goods and services, particularly the rising cost of petroleum, was the dominant statistic both in the State and in the Nation. The redirection of disposable income may impact the level of employment in the service and nondurable goods industries in the future. The Massachusetts Economic Policy Analysis Model forecasts that residents' real per capita disposable income will decline in 1980.

(A national econometric model concludes that the quadrupling of oil prices in 1973-74 caused a 4 percent drop in investment in 1974, and a 27 percent decline in 1975. The model forecasts that the 1979 oil price increases will cause the real GNP to be 2.8 percent lower in 1980 than it would have been otherwise, and that investment will be down by 12.6 percent in 1980 and by 14.8 percent in 1981. Such large declines in investment would seriously impact the economy's long term growth and productivity. Should national firms cut back on capital investment purchases, the local industry employment levels most likely to be affected are fabricated metals and electrical machinery. The Treyz model projects such a decline in calendar year 1980.)

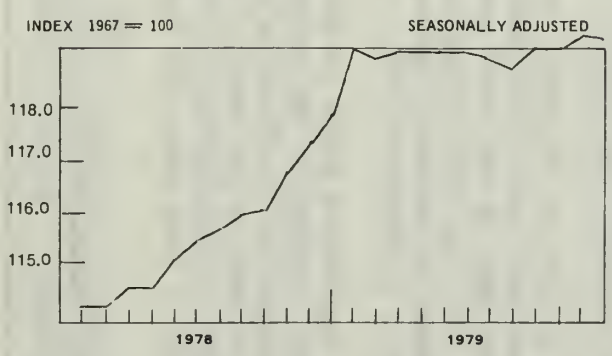
The Commonwealth's unemployment rate increased to 5.1 percent in December, but the rate was still well below the seasonally unadjusted national rate of 5.6 percent. According to Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates there were 18,000 fewer unemployed workers in the State than at the same time last year. In line with the normal seasonal pattern, claims for unemployment insurance (UI) increased in December; however, there were 9,000 fewer weeks claimed on UI than there had been in December 1978.

Employment and unemployment data, plus other economic indicators point to the high technology industry as a major factor in the continuing strength of the Massachusetts economy. Several labor market areas reflected the strength of the State as a whole. The expansion of major firms in older urban areas is evident in the Lowell, Lawrence-Haverhill, and Worcester SMSA's. Unemployment in Lowell is substantially reduced from a year ago. With the expansion of four major employers in that area, the prospects for continued employment growth are excellent.

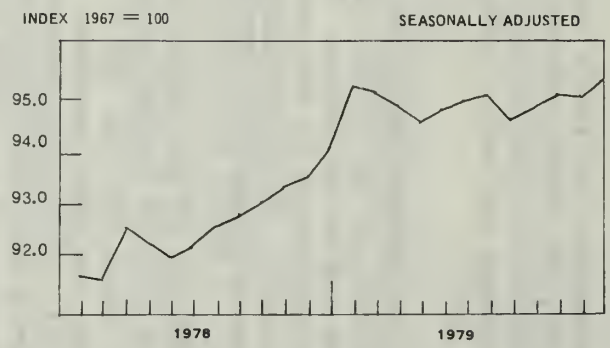
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts DIVISION OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY Eugene J. Doody, Director

Massachusetts
EMPLOYMENT INDICATORS

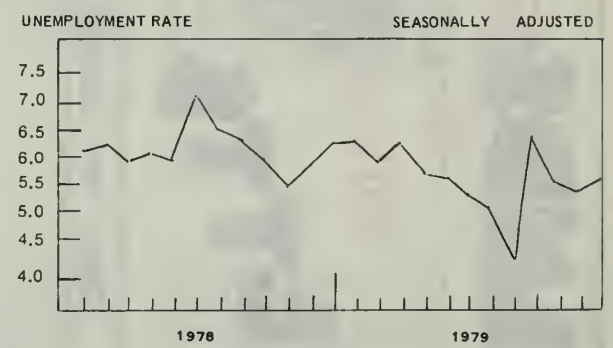
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT



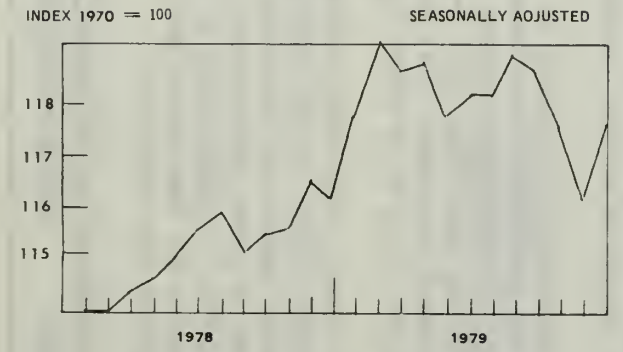
TOTAL MANUFACTURING EMPLOYMENT



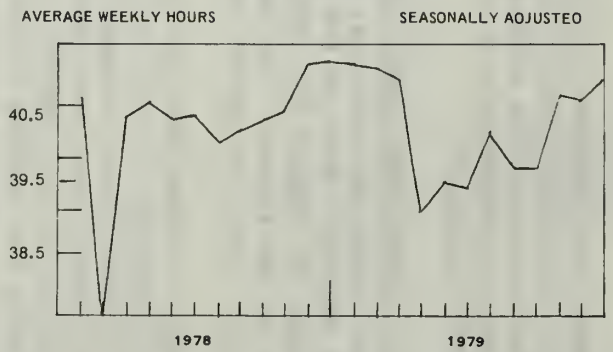
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



TOTAL EMPLOYMENT



AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS



AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS

ACTUAL DATA - SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES

ITEM	DECEMBER 1979		NOVEMBER 1979		DECEMBER 1978	
	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.	Mass.	U.S.
Total Employment Ø	2,719.0	97,912.0	2,687.0	97,608.0	2,687.0	95,831.0
The Unemployment Rate	5.6	5.9	5.3	5.8	6.2	5.9
Total Nonagricultural Employment Ø	2,607.9	90,426.0	2,594.7	90,109.0	2,547.3	88,133.0
Total Manufacturing Employment Ø	665.5	20,954.0	663.4	20,846.0	658.0	20,881.0
Average Weekly Hours 1/	40.5	40.3	40.5	40.1	41.1	40.6
Average Hourly Earnings 1/	$ 6.34	$ 6.97	$ 6.33	$ 6.87	$ 5.71	$ 6.48

Ø in 000's

1/ Production Workers Only

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS
SELECTED PERIODS

MASSACHUSETTS AND THE LABOR AREAS	The Labor Force 1/			Total Employment 2/			Total Unemployment 3/			The Unemployment Rate 4/ Unadjusted		
	Dec. 1979	Nov. 1979	Dec. 1978	Dec. 1979	Nov. 1979	Dec. 1978	Dec. 1979	Nov. 1979	Dec. 1978	Dec. 1979	Nov. 1979	Dec. 1978
Massachusetts	2,859,200	2,818,800	2,842,000	2,714,700	2,684,800	2,679,500	144,500	134,000	162,500	5.1	4.8	5.7
Major Labor Areas												
Boston SMSA	1,371,200	1,349,700	1,370,300	1,310,900	1,291,300	1,299,500	60,300	58,400	70,800	4.4	4.3	5.2
Brockton SMSA	80,800	80,100	83,400	76,500	75,800	78,700	4,300	4,300	4,700	5.4	5.3	5.6
Fall River LMA	78,900	77,700	79,800	73,500	72,500	74,000	5,400	5,200	5,800	6.8	6.7	7.3
Lawrence-Haverhill SMSA	136,800	135,100	139,300	129,100	127,400	130,200	7,700	7,700	9,100	5.6	5.7	6.5
Lowell LMA	118,400	119,800	112,200	112,900	113,400	105,700	5,500	6,400	6,500	4.6	5.3	5.8
New Bedford LMA	84,900	83,400	82,800	78,000	77,200	75,800	6,900	6,200	6,900	8.1	7.5	8.4
Springfield-Chicopee-Holyoke LMA	284,500	278,100	275,700	269,200	267,300	260,700	15,300	10,800	15,000	5.4	3.9	5.4
Worcester LMA	200,800	198,100	198,200	192,600	190,000	189,200	8,200	8,100	9,000	4.1	4.1	4.5
Other Labor Areas												
Athol	11,410	11,050	12,060	10,840	10,600	11,430	570	450	630	5.0	4.1	5.3
Barnstable County	66,280	67,800	69,510	60,930	63,300	63,130	5,350	4,500	6,380	8.1	6.6	9.2
Clinton	8,950	8,980	8,880	8,530	8,510	8,390	420	470	490	4.7	5.2	5.5
Dukes County	4,990	5,090	3,850	4,410	4,610	3,470	580	480	380	11.7	9.4	9.9
Fitchburg-Leominster	46,760	46,110	46,500	44,340	43,860	43,890	2,420	2,250	2,620	5.2	4.9	5.6
Gardner	20,620	20,180	19,980	19,490	19,270	18,790	1,130	910	1,200	5.5	4.5	6.0
Gloucester	23,850	23,760	23,500	22,050	21,890	21,180	1,800	1,870	2,320	7.5	7.9	9.9
Great Barrington	9,070	8,860	9,190	8,730	8,520	8,740	340	340	450	3.8	3.8	4.9
Greenfield	25,360	24,770	25,980	24,170	23,810	24,690	1,190	960	1,290	4.7	3.9	5.0
Marlboro	56,900	56,160	51,420	55,010	54,460	49,490	1,890	1,700	1,930	3.3	3.0	3.8
Milford	19,190	19,000	20,390	18,310	18,180	19,320	880	820	1,070	4.6	4.3	5.2
Nantucket	2,450	2,510	2,930	2,320	2,360	2,740	130	150	190	5.5	5.8	6.5
Newburyport	17,680	17,310	16,590	16,600	16,280	15,320	1,080	1,030	1,270	6.1	6.0	7.7
Pittsfield	65,060	64,060	64,600	61,570	60,630	60,220	3,490	3,430	4,380	5.4	5.4	6.8
Plymouth	34,760	34,300	35,400	31,840	31,860	32,210	2,920	2,440	3,190	8.4	7.1	9.0
Southbridge	15,960	16,190	15,900	15,190	15,210	15,110	770	980	790	4.8	6.1	5.0
Taunton	26,480	25,600	24,250	24,750	24,210	22,300	1,730	1,390	1,950	6.5	5.4	8.0
Ware	6,260	6,370	6,860	5,890	5,960	6,400	370	410	460	5.9	6.4	6.8

EXPLANATION OF TERMS

1/ The *Labor Force* is the total of the employed and the unemployed.

2/ *Total Employment* is an unduplicated count by place of residence of all those persons 16 years of age and over who did any work at all for pay or in their own business during the week, or who worked in a family business without pay for at least 15 hours during the week; and all persons who had a job from which they were temporarily absent because of their own illness, vacation, labor dispute, or other miscellaneous reasons not reflecting a shortage of work.

3/ *Total Unemployment* is the count of persons who did not have a job but were looking for work, or waiting to be called back from a layoff, or to start a new job within 30 days.

4/ The *Unemployment Rate* is unemployment expressed as a percent of the labor force.

Each month the Department of Labor classifies 150 major employment centers according to the adequacy of their labor supply. The classifications are based on reports, prepared by the State employment security agencies, covering employment and unemployment developments and outlook in each area. A letter classification code, is assigned to each major area. The unemployment rate is a key factor in determining the area classification, but consideration is also given to the area's employment and unemployment outlook, local employer estimates of their manpower requirements, the relationship between labor supply and demand, the seasonal pattern of employment and unemployment and unemployment fluctuations in the area, and other factors.

Further information on area classification may be found in Area Trends in Employment and Unemployment, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Employment and Training Administration.

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT
MASSACHUSETTS AND THE UNITED STATES
(IN 000'S) 1974 - 1979

Period	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	The Unemployment Rate Unadjusted	
				Mass.	U.S.
1974	2,638.0	2,448.0	190.0	7.2	5.6
1975	2,724.0	2,421.0	303.0	11.2	8.5
1976	2,753.0	2,491.0	262.0	9.5	7.7
1977	2,777.0	2,552.0	225.0	8.1	7.0
1978	2,836.0	2,663.0	173.0	6.1	6.0
September	2,807.3	2,645.4	161.7	5.8	5.7
October	2,797.8	2,677.5	120.3	4.3	5.4
November	2,835.6	2,687.5	148.1	5.2	5.5
December	2,842.0	2,679.5	162.5	5.7	5.6
1979					
January	2,904.6	2,685.4	219.2	7.5	6.4
February	2,918.0	2,725.0	193.0	6.6	6.4
March	2,913.8	2,719.7	194.1	6.7	6.1
April	2,883.0	2,730.7	152.3	5.3	5.8
May	2,855.6	2,712.9	142.7	5.0	5.8
June	2,947.4	2,797.1	150.3	5.1	6.0
July	2,948.3	2,802.1	146.2	5.0	5.8
August	2,936.1	2,798.5	137.6	4.7	5.9
September	2,911.6	2,724.6	187.0	6.4	5.6
October	2,851.2	2,727.2	124.0	4.4	5.6
November	2,818.8	2,684.8	134.0	4.8	5.6
December	2,859.2	2,714.7	144.5	5.1	5.6

Estimates are prepared from the Current Population Survey. The data is prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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